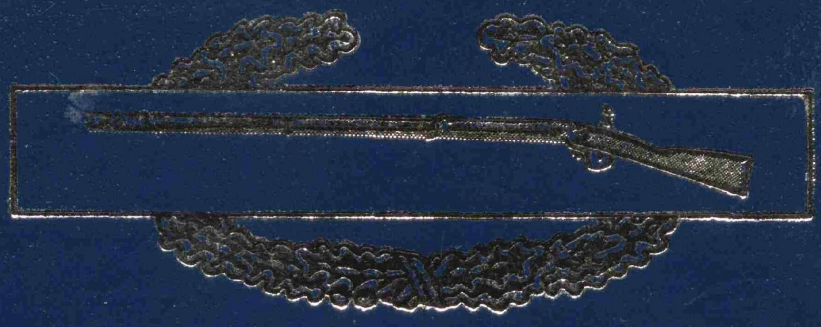
MEMORIES OF WAR



WILLIAM T. TULEY

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MEMORIES OF WAR

by William T. Tuley

Printed in 1989 by
Minuteman Press
Schererville, Indiana

LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

CREDITS

Some of the information recorded in this book, along with some of the photographs, are from "The History of the 87th Infantry Division", and "The History of the 345th Infantry Regiment." The balance of information comes from my notes, records that I brought home from the war, and my memories. Many of the photographs are from my personal collection. I also want to acknowledge the use of some information from the "World War II Almanac: 1931-1945" by Robert Goralski and a reference made to "The Last Battle", by Cornelius Ryan. A special thanks is extended to Steve Watson and employees of Minuteman Press of Schererville, Indiana, for the typing and printing of the book.

W. T. Tuley 1989

FREDRICA JOHANNA (EUREKA PETERS) TULEY

March 24, 1880 - November 2, 1976

This book is dedicated to the memory of my mother. She always let me be an independent person. She had a hard, and many times difficult life, both as a young child on the farm and as a mother of six children. She never complained about hardships, but rather cheerfully accepted whatever life had in mind for her. She suffered in silence when I went off to war, and she shed her tears alone and in private when I went overseas. She was truly a great and wonderful mother.

William T. Tuley

FORWARD

When I returned to the United States for discharge from military service seven months after the end of the war, I resolved to write the story of my military experiences. Now, 44 years later, I have finally done it.

The purpose of writing "My Memories of World War II" has not been an attempt to establish myself as a World War II hero, but for my family and friends so that they will remember that I did serve my country, and I remain to this day proud of my service. Furthermore, I am a believer in history and that it should not pass into oblivion.

Many of my friends did their part as well. Some had worse experiences than I did. Some did not have the combat experiences that I went through. No matter, small part or large part, we all did what we were assigned to do.

My memories are still vivid. I can never forget the bitter, cold winter fighting in the Saar Valley of Germany, where my rifle company E lost 49 percent of it's men the first day. In spite of the losses, we were still able to stop a German counter attack.

Nor can I forget fighting in the knee deep snow and zero temperatures in the Ardennes (Bulge). It was so terrible that many men wanted to just lie in the snow and quit, but no one did. Many of us suffered frostbitten hands, feet and ears, including myself. At one point we went two days with no food other than chocolate "D" bars. This was caused by the deep snow that kept the supply forces from getting to us. However, we were able to stop the German penetration, and to drive them back.

The infantry soldier had to fight off fear as well as the enemy. Every combat soldier has a certain degree of fear. Most combat men can handle it and do their job in spite of fear. There were always a few who could not cope with fear and had to be sent to the rear. We should not discredit these few. They tried their best, but could not overcome the fear.

Then there was the fight to take the major city of Koblenz where the fight was from one street to another, and from house to house. An interesting part about the capture of Koblenz is that my outfit, the 87th Infantry Division captured this same city in World War I.

After Koblenz it was fighting our way across the Moselle and Rhine Rivers, and then we became the first American

troops to crack through the vaunted Seigfried Line.

In the short period of time the 87th Division was in combat, a mere five months that seemed like eternity, we had a total of 4,510 men killed or wounded. At least 12 men were captured by the Germans and another five or six that have never been accounted for, including a Lieutenant from my Company E.

My regiment, the 345th, had 41 percent of the 87th Division casualties, more than any other unit of the 87 Division. As for my E Company we had more casualties, 43 killed and 123 wounded, than any other rifle company in the 345th Regiment. A rifle company is made up of 176 men. Of those 176 men E company lost 167, including the one missing officer. I was indeed fortunate.

From France to Belgium to Luxembourg; back to Belgium, then Germany, back into Belgium and again into Germany the 345th Regiment captured a total of 129 towns; 13 of these were Belgium and 103 were German towns.

The 345th recorded a total of 1,290 combat miles, a great deal of those were by walking. We also fired a grand total of 2,208,779 rounds of ammunition. Of this total, 1,016,746 was rifle and carbine ammunition, the balance was artillery and mortar ammunition.

There really is no glory in war. If there is any glory at all, it has to be when the soldier returns home as the victor; but that is soon forgotten. The stark reality is that war is a terrible thing to go through. However, there has been war since the beginning of mankind, and in all likelihood we will continue to have wars. If we can avoid a global war as we have now done for 44 years it will be an accomplishment.

Many things can cause a war to break out. Greed, economic reasons, political factors, a lack of trust and a lack of understanding. In Europe for example, over the centuries there have been border changes among countries. Some countries have disappeared from the map, and new ones have appeared. The only thing that does not change is national pride in one's own country. To lose part of your territory and have it renamed breeds resentment, and all European countries have gone through this; to take a little when they win a war, give it and more back when a war is lost, and possibly gain it back again in the next war. There has been no status quo of borders.

I think that peace can be maintained through strength. If you have strength you can negotiate. There can be no fair negotiations when one side has no strength to negotiate with. In a weakened condition one can only be dictated to.

In reality a strong military force is used to keep the peace and not wage war. If the peace is broken, there will be war.

THE BEGINNING

Everyone's life in the United States began to change on December 7, 1941. The Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor and practically destroyed the entire United States Fleet anchored in the harbor.

A lot of people had never heard of Pearl Harbor and made a dash for the family Atlas to find it. Patriotism for the United States and hatred for the Japanese came to forefront at the same time. How dare they attack us that way. We would show them in short order that they could not get away with that sneak attack.

Little did we know at the time how unprepared we were; how long it would take to turn the tide of battle in our favor, and how many casualties we would suffer before the end came.

But that was in the far east. How about the War in Europe. Germany had defeated every country that resisted. They crossed borders at will. However, the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor changed the European war as well. The United States not only went to war against Japan, but against Hitler's Germany as well.

On December 7, Bill Tuley predicted to his friends of the Hammond Braves that he would be the first member of the team to be called up; and he was the first, on June 17, 1942. Up to that point he had a deferment as sole wage earner of the family. Without saying a word to anyone; family, or friends, he appeared before the local draft board in May and volunteered for the draft. On the 17th of June he passed the physical at fort Benjamin Harrison near Indianapolis, and was sworn in as a member of the United States Army.

His reasoning for predicting he would be the first among his friends to go was sound. In 1935 he was a member of the Indiana Civilian Reserve Corps. In 1936 he was a member of the local Marine Reserve unit until he was released because of poor eyesight. He enjoyed the military and had some experience.

On July 20, his 26th birthday, one month and three days after induction, he received his first assignment, and was sent to the Quartermaster Corps., Fifth Service Command at Camp Campbell, Kentucky, and was assigned as a clerk in the Personnel Office.

On September 1, just 10 weeks after induction he

received his first promotion, to Private First Class.

Life at Campbell was anything but exciting. It didn't seem much like the military to Tuley; no drilling, no field tactics, no weapons. Only the uniform separated you from the civilians. At night you had your choice of activities, movies on the base, go into town at Clarksville, Tennessee and drink beer, or go into Hopkinsville, Kentucky and drink beer. Once every so often a church in Clarksville or Hopkinsville would have a dinner and a limited number of servicemen would be invited.

Then came winter and the basketball season, and Tuley was named coach of the Quartermaster Corps. basketball team. This had to be because of his baseball background with the Hammond Braves. As any sports fan knows, there is quite a difference between the two. However, because there was some talent to work with, Tuley made it work, playing other service teams and nearby high school teams.

On November 4, 1942, Tuley received his second promotion in five months, to Technician 5th Grade (Corporal). The only benefit from this was a slight increase in pay and being in charge of five clerks. He no longer did the clerical work; he passed it out.

Army of the United States

To all who shall see these presents, greeting:

Know ye, *that reposing special trust and confidence in the fidelity and abilities*

of WILLIAM T. TULEY 35357866, *I do hereby appoint him*

*TECHNICIAN 5th GRADE (TEMPORARY) Q.M. SECT. (W) 1580th S.U. ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,

to rank as such from the FOURTH *day of* NOVEMBER

one thousand nine hundred and FORTY-TWO *He is therefore carefully and diligently*

to discharge the duty of † TECHNICIAN 5th GRADE *by doing and performing all manner of*

things thereunto belonging. And I do strictly charge and require all Noncommissioned Officers and Soldiers under his command to be obedient to his orders as TECHNICIAN 5th GRADE

And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time, as he shall receive from his Superior Officers and Noncommissioned Officers set over him, according to the rules and discipline of War.

Given *under my hand at* CAMP CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY

this FOURTH *day of* NOVEMBER *in the year of our Lord one thousand nine*

hundred and FORTY-TWO Robert G. St. James

ROBERT G.ST.JAMES, LT. COL. INFANTRY

COMMANDING PROVISIONAL REGIMENT, 1580th SERVICE UNIT

W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 58
March 25, 1924

* Insert grade, company, and regiment or arm or service; e. g., "Corporal, Company A, 1st Infantry," "Sergeant, Quartermaster Corps."
† Insert grade.

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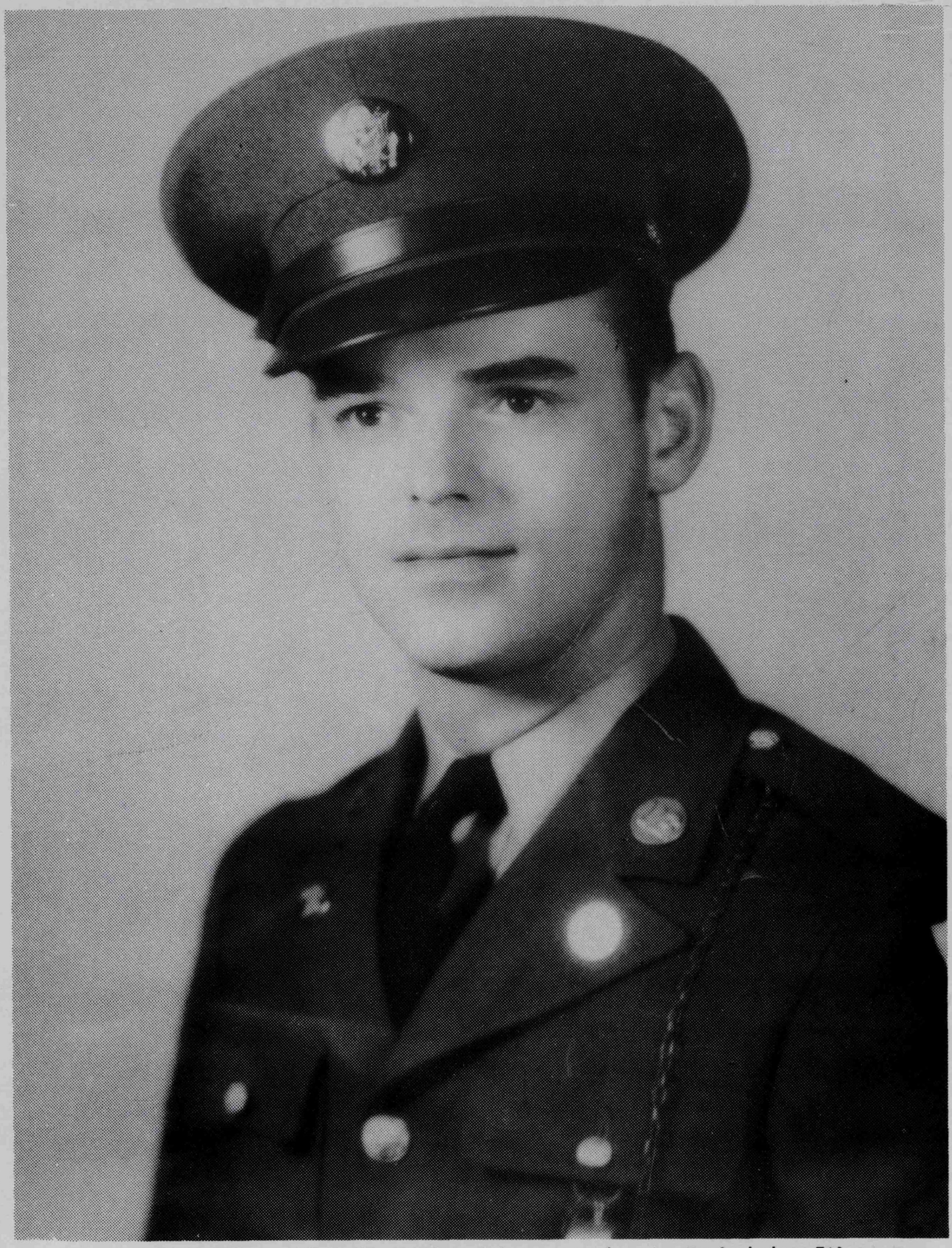


Photo of Bill Tuley taken just after his promotion to Technician 5th Grade in the Quartermaster Section, Camp Campbell, Ky., Nov. 4, 1942

Bill Tuley's fellow non commissioned officers at Camp Campbell, Ky. Sgt. Bob Robertson, Sgt. Jack Twitchell, Sgt. Ray Shenkel and Sgt. John Creek.

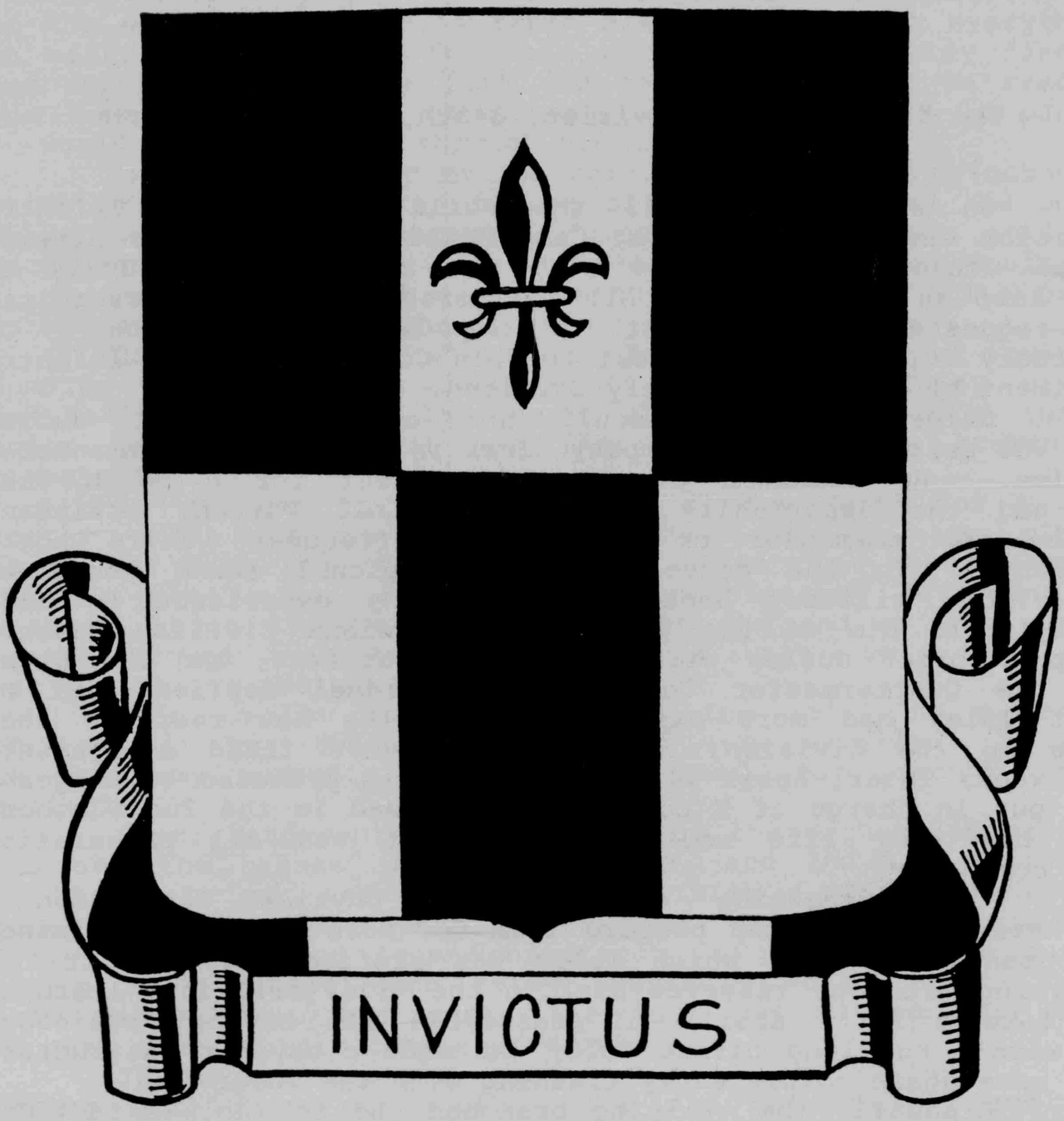
87TH INFANTRY DIVISION

IN WORLD WAR II

1942~1945

Golden Acorn

The 345th



Infantry Regiment

The 87th Infantry Division, 345th Infantry Regiment

In January of 1943 the World War I 87th Infantry Division was re-activated at Camp McCain near Grenada, Mississippi. Tuley thought this would be a great opportunity to get into an active unit. All the personnel would be recruits. He requested re-assignment to the Infantry Division. On February 20, 1943 he was sent to join Company E, 345th Infantry Regiment of the 87th Infantry Division.

Unfortunately he could not escape clerical duties and was assigned as the company clerk in the Company Commander's office. He remained at this assignment for a month when he had the opportunity to talk to Col. Warren, assistant regimental commander on one of his frequent visits to E Company. In the conversation the Colonel asked where he was from, military background, and any experience he had. Tuley told him of the year in the Indiana Civilian Reserve Corps., brief duties with the Marine Reserves, and his stint in the Quartermaster Corps. The Colonel replied that he felt Tuley had more experience than the new recruits that made up the division. He should have a field assignment. Two weeks later, April 14, 1943, Tuley was promoted to Sergeant and put in charge of E Company's 1st squad in the 2nd Platoon. Now his army life would change. It was all preparation for combat.

Early training consisted of physical conditioning to harden the men and prepare them for more vigorous training, the manual of arms which Tuley was proficent at due to his training with the reserves back in the '30s; drilling, learning to take a rifle apart and reassemble it, bayonet training. It wasn't too long before Tuley was made a bayonet instructor, due once again to his early training with the reserves.

Gradually the training branched out to include tactics, long marches, how to sneak up on a sentry or guard and kill him without him making a sound, classes on first aid, how to deal with and the rights of prisoners, enemy tank and armored vehicle identification, and what to do and your rights if you were captured.

Tuley was a tough sergeant who tolerated no goofing off during training. For example one day during a training session one of his men walked away from the group to sit under a tree that offered some shade. Tuley turned the session over to his assistant squad leader, fixed his bayonet and ordered the soldier to double time back to the barracks

3 miles away. To make sure he double timed Tuley stayed right on his heels the entire distance and once in a while gently jabbed the man in the butt to remind him there was a bayonet very close. The soldier never goofed again.

Another instance took place in the mess hall where the men were expected to act in a gentlemanly manner. One of the privates at Tuley's table always grabbed for everything in sight, never asking for food to be passed. Tuley finally had enough, picked up a fork and told him that if he reached one more time instead of asking for the item to be passed he would drive the fork through his arm.

On the other side of the coin, on more than one occasion while on a 25 mile hike, if one of his men reached the point where he could not continue, Tuley would take the soldiers pack and rifle and carry it himself along with his own equipment so the man would be able to finish the 25 miles. The order on these hikes was "no one drops out."

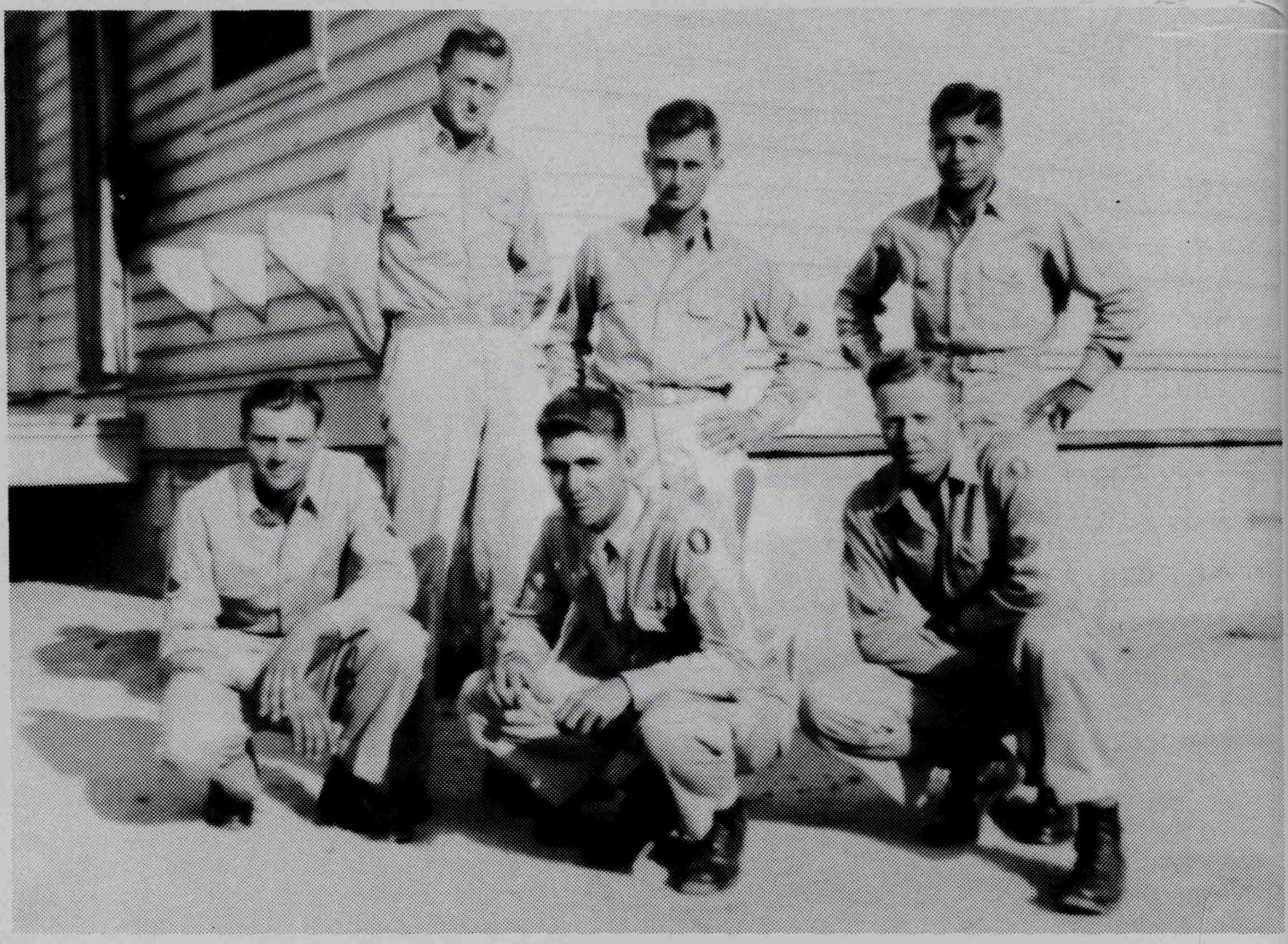
On June 28, 1943 while on a field exercise that included jumping a wide ditch about eight feet deep, Tuley missed and fell to the bottom landing on a log with his ankle turned under him. The result was that his ankle was broken in three places.

It was off to the base hospital for Tuley for a much longer stay than anyone anticipated. His leg was placed in a cast from the toes to the knee. The cast was to remain on for six weeks, so Tuley was anticipating returning to duty in about 8 weeks. Not so. At the end of six weeks, x-rays showed that the bones had not knit, so a new cast was put on for another six weeks.

Life in the hospital was not too bad. As a matter of fact it was good. The doctors were excellent as well as the army nurses. The food was good, but time did drag a little.

Capt. Bondurant was in charge of the orthopedic section and set the breaks in Tuley's ankle, and 2nd Lt. Elizabeth M. Theriault was the head nurse in Tuley's ward. Both were fine people. Capt. James Bondurant was from Georgia and Betty Theriault was from Connecticut. Once in awhile during the night Bondurant and Betty Theriault would invite Tuley into his office, and after the door was closed the three of them would have a couple of drinks.

There was another nurse, Mary Ellen Miller. A very pretty girl from the South. She and Sgt. Tuley developed a rather close relationship. After he was able to walk with the cast, using a cane, Nurse Theriault and Capt. Bondurant, against all regulations, would give Tuley a pass to get out of the hospital for an evening. Mary Ellen would get the night off and the two of them would take a bus to Jackson, Miss. where they would have a nice dinner and take in a movie. This arrangement was made about once a week for many weeks.



Fellow Non/Coms of E Company, 2nd platoon: Left to right: Sgt. Tom Rooney, S/Sgt/ George Abbott, Sgt. James Romero. Front left to right: S/Sgt. Vincent Ansel, Tech Sgt. Dewey Heard, and Cpl. Charles Thompson.

Sgt. Abbott was killed in action and T/Sgt. Dewey Heard was wounded.

Home on furlough from the hospital at Camp McCain, Miss in 1943. Left to right: sister Lilah Cadmus, Bill Tuley, "Mom Tuley, oldest sister, Maysie (Klein) Newsome, twin sister Winifred Demas.

Doctors and nurses who took care of Bill Tuley during his eight month stay in the hospital at Camp McCain, Miss. Left to right: Lt. Gannes, Lt. Knowland, Capt. Bondurant, Lt. Theriault and Capt. Mann.

X-rays showed that the ankle was still not healing properly and the stay in the hospital became longer and longer. In the meantime Tuley's 87th Infantry Division was moved to Fort Jackson, So. Carolina, leaving him behind.

While at the Camp McCain hospital, Tuley got his first look at German soldiers. There were probably about a hundred of them working on the grounds as prisoners of war. They were just like we were. They were friendly and happy to be away from the war.

Finally, around February 20, 1944, after spending eight months in the hospital, Tuley was discharged and ordered back to active duty with the 87th Division at Fort Jackson, So. Carolina. A bus trip from Grenada, Miss. to Memphis, Tenn., then two long train rides and he was back with his outfit.

At Fort Jackson, training was intensified, and everyone knew that the next move would be overseas. Everyone was concerned about the durability of Tuley's ankle, but it held up. Little did he know that it would come back to haunt him in less than a year.

Early in the spring a Service Baseball League was formed, and Tuley became the manager of the 345th Regimental team. There were a lot of professional ball players, some of them with Major League experience, and that was the reason it was a tough league. Tuley's 345th team had a pitcher, Hank Nowak, from the St. Louis farm system, and he never lost a game.

Playing baseball was a pleasant diversion from the long training routine, with some travel involved to nearby Columbia, So. Carolina, and to Sumter, where there was an Air Force base.

In August of 1944, Tuley was promoted to Staff Sergeant, remaining as Squad leader for the first squad, 2nd platoon of E Company. The 87th Division was not quite up to personnel strength, and soon replacements to fill the vacant spots began to arrive. These men had been trained in other units and then were sent to the 87th. The division would soon be headed overseas.

Mortar and machine gun section of Company E, 345th Regiment at Fort Jackson, So. Carolina.

345th Infantry Regiment baseball team at Fort Jackson, So. Carolina.
Back row left to right: Nowak, Welch, Gatlan, Sullivan, Simmons, Hamilton, Guter, Kelleher, Tayek, Flarehty, Lint, Culkin.
Front row left to right: Mellenger, Manager Bill Tuley, Kovach, Chavez, Tumelson, Schellhase, Urpaugh and Paul. (Nowak, Kelleher, Tuley, Tumelson, Schellhase and Urpaugh were named to the 87th Division All Star Team.)

OVERSEAS TO EUROPE

On October 8, 1944 the order was passed down that all men of the 87th Division were restricted to their respective areas of camp and to pack their gear for a move. Everyone knew what this meant. No phone calls were allowed and no mail could be sent out. The following day, October 9, the division boarded several different trains for the trip to the staging area.

On October 11 the special trains delivered us to Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, which was located just outside Brunswick. Passes into town were limited, with only a few men from each unit being allowed a pass at the same time.

The days were spent on replacing equipment, and getting new clothing in preperation for the move overseas.

No one knew where the division was headed for, and as a result there was a lot of speculation and guessing going on, with most of the guesses being England. Some scuttlebut had the division going directly to France or to Belgium. Only time would provide the answer.

On the night of October 15 anyone who wanted to go to town was issued a pass to leave the base. All were told that this would be the last pass that would be issued in the states. The following day, October 16, all personnel were restricted to their company areas. Once again no phone calls were allowed and no letters were mailed. The day was spent in packing your gear, making ready to set sail for a destination that was still a secret.

Only one person in Tuley's company failed to report for roll call on the morning following the last pass into town. A sergeant, who was a regular army man, had gone AWOL. He knew what was ahead of him and decided it was better to be a private in the stockade in the states than to be a sergeant overseas.

On the night of the 16th all men once again boarded the special train that took them to New York Harbor, where they boarded the Queen Elizabeth, the second largest passenger ship in the world. At dawn, the ship slowly slipped out of New York Harbor, and soon the shores of the United States were out of sight. It was then that the men were told that they were headed for England.

It was true that by this time and date the battle for control of the Atlantic had been won, but there was always the chance that there might be one lone submarine out there, and to sink a ship of this size with thousands of troops on board would be a devastating blow and a feather in the cap of the submarine commander. As a precautionary measure the ship, using its great speed, sailed unescorted,

and alone in a zig zag course to avoid any possible attempted strike by a submarine.

The weather was cool and the sea was heavy, and by mid afternoon the roll and pitch of the ship in the high waves began to take its toll on the men. Every Head was full of sick soldiers; every rail had men who couldn't make it into the Head. Tuley was no exception, and seasickness overtook him, and he spent most of the trip in his bunk. He held out until the evening meal, and as he entered the mess hall the odor of the food was the last straw and he had to make a run for a nearby Head.

On October 22 the Queen Elizabeth pulled into a harbor, and the men thought they had arrived in England. However, when we left the ship and heard the civilian dock workers talking, we could not understand the language, and then we found thatr we had docked in the Firth of Clyde at the little town of Gourock in Scotland.

The men of the 87th Division had a short stay in Scotland, just long enough to be taken to the rail center where they boarded a train for England. Just being in a foreign country was a new experience for practically all of the men, and now, boarding a train where each coach was divided into separate passenger compartments, with a door in the center of the coach that enabled you to enter directly into the compartment from the outside. All of the men had undoubtedly seen these trains in the movies, but now they were experiencing a ride on one of them.

It was a long ride, one that lasted several hours. The trip started during the daylight hours, and it was interesting to see the Scottish scenery, and then the English countryside and the small villages that the train passed through. After dark the men had a supper of cold rations. Lights were allowed on in the coaches, but the shades had to be drawn.

Late that night the train came to a halt in the small English town by the name of Stone. The 345th Regiment got off the train and the various units were dispatched in different directions to their billet area. E Company was to be stationed at an old mansion about a mile out of town, so they were marched to their area.

Quonset huts had been constructed on the grounds of the mansion, and the enlisted men were quartered in the huts while the officers had their offices and living quarters in the main building. Each hut had a pot-belly stove in the center for heat. There was a small building that served as a latrine, and alongside that building a long metal trough with about 10 faucets for washing and shaving. The only problem was that there was no hot water and the mornings were always cold and damp.

The first full day was spent in listening to lectures on how to behave with the English civilians, and the usual, but more intensified lectures on venerial diseases.

The men would be told that for the time being they would be restricted to the grounds they were stationed on, but that very soon they would be free to go into Stone every evening if they wished.

Stone was a pleasant, small, typical English town with a population of 7,000. There were several pubs in the town, and visiting the pubs was the only source of entertainment the men of E Company had. They got their first taste of warm English beer, and eventually got used to it. They learned not to deprive civilians of their favorite seat in the pub, as they had probably been using the same seat for many years, and it was as if they actually owned that seat, or table. The men also learned not to interfere with the civilians game of darts, unless invited to play. Once again, it was a case of many residents of the town meeting at the pub for a beer and a game of darts at the same time, every night for many years.

The English people were friendly and very outgoing, and had a lot of humor. They were probably envious of the Americans and the amount of money they had to spend. They were envious, but not resentful, even though they had suffered with a shortage of food and many of the necessary things of life all during the war.

There were times when you could get a pass to visit larger cities such as Stoke on Trent, and even a week end pass to London. On Tuley's trip to London he was amazed at the destruction wrought by the German bombing. In the heart of London there were many streets where every building had been destroyed, or at least partially damaged. It was a wonder, and a credit to the English people that they were able to withstand the many bombardments.

Much of the training the men received at Stone was of a physical nature in order to build up their stamina. A long hike took place every morning. The men soon learned that hiking on an English coblestone road was not the same as on the dirt or blacktop roads at camp back home. Hiking on these roads was really hard on their feet, even wearing combat boots.

Many classes were held on what to do if you were taken prisoner, and what to do and how to handle prisoners that you may capture. Some tactical training was done at night. What to do and how to perform in the black of night in territory that was totally unfamiliar to you. You had to be able to recognize the voice of every man in your platoon. At some point in time this ability could mean the difference between life or death to the individual.

OFF TO FRANCE AND COMBAT

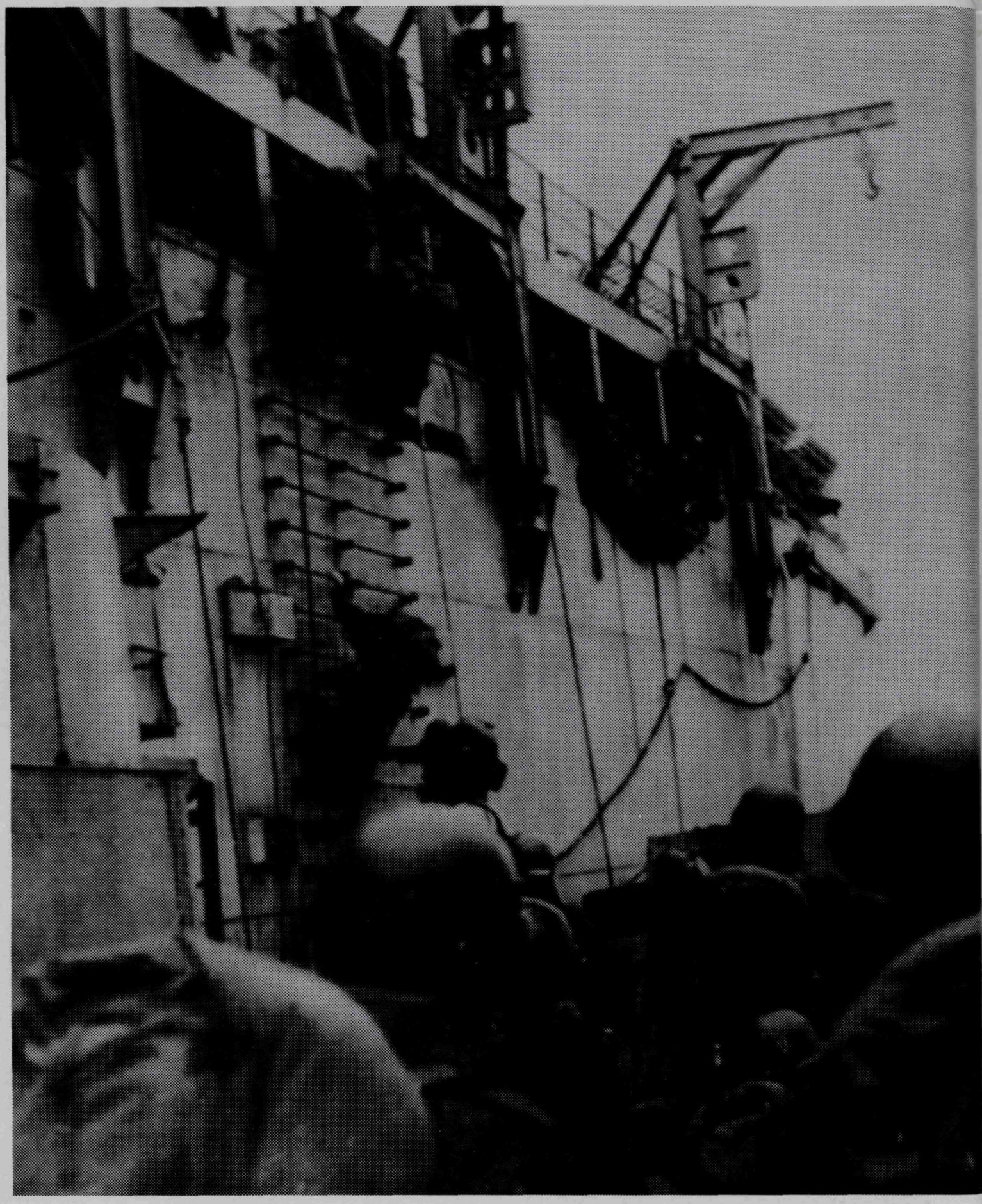
The good life in England was to be short lived for the men of the 87th Division. On November 23 all personnel were restricted to their billet areas, and that night the men boarded a train for South Hampton. They arrived in South Hampton's port area the following morning, and would spend the entire day waiting to board a small troop carrier that would take them across the English Channel to France. It was in total darkness that the men from E Company boarded their ship and headed for the French coast. It was late at night, and in a rain storm that the craft docked at LeHarve. The men were immediately trucked to the town of St. Saens, France, a short distance east of LeHarve. It was still total darkness when the men were delivered to an open field just outside of the town, and told to pitch their pup tents for the rest of the night. The biggest problem was that it was still raining, and the field was a sea of mud. They slept as best they could, wraapped in their rain coats in the mud. There was an immediate hatred for the German Army for causing this inconvenience.

On December 5th, E. Company and the rest of the 345th Regiment was sent by train to Metz. The men got their first taste of riding in the small French railroad box cars, appropriately named in World War I as 40 & 8 cars. Cars built to hold forty men or eight horses. Forty men could occupy one of these freight cars, but it was a very cramped and uncomfortable situation.

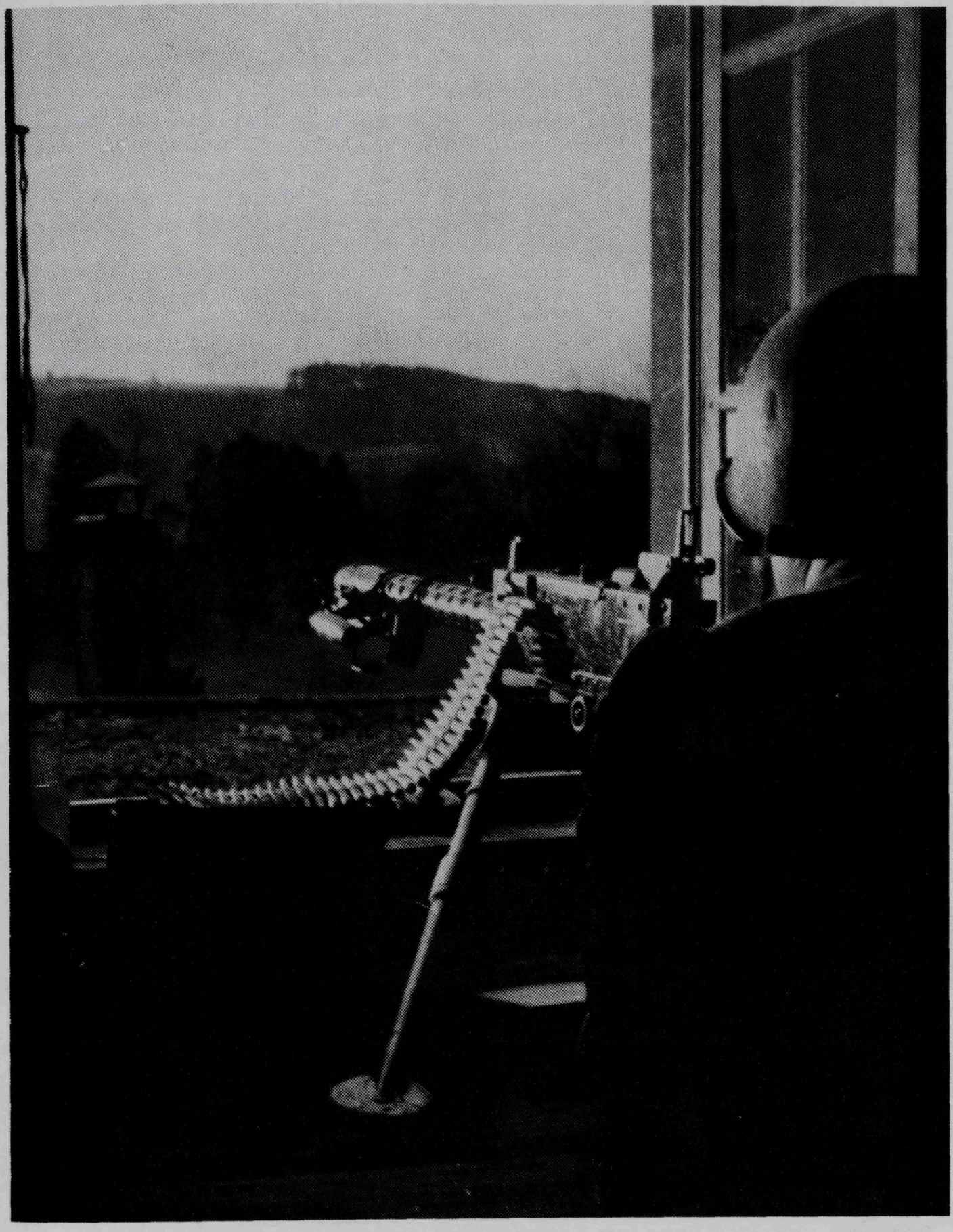
Metz was a large city that was surrounded by several underground fortresses. Several of these fortresses were still held by the Germans. It was in Metz that Tuley saw his first dead German soldier, lying face down on the sidewalk, still waiting to be picked up by the grave registration team.

The object was to force the surrender of all German forces remaining in the bunkers, or fortresses. For this operation the 345th Regiment was detached from General Patton's 3rd Army and assigned to the 5th Army.

E Company moved into one of the bunkers that the Germans had hastily left, leaving everything behind, including rations, which were very good. The one fortress that was the responsibility of E Company could be seen very easily from our position. Each night an E Company patrol would go out under cover of darkness to an advance position, a large fox hole, where they could observe any action that might be taken by the Germans. This patrol would stay at their position for 24 hours, and be relieved the following



345th Infantry disembarking from LCI and LeHarve, France on November 24, 1944.



An E Company machine gunner keeps a lonely vigil overlooking German bunkers at Metz, France, December 5, 1944.

night by another patrol. From their position they had telephone contact with Sgt. Tuley back at the fortress. Tuley remained on the telephone for three days and nights, and was finally ordered to bed by one of his officers.

All during this seige the Germans also had patrols out at night, and E Company men were able to take a few prisoners. At the same time there was constant artillery barages on the German held positions. Finally, after four days, a German patrol appeared with a white flag of surrender for all of the remaining German held fortresses.

On December 12, units of the 26th Infantry Division moved into Metz to relieve the 87th's 345 Regiment, and took over occupation of Metz. E Company and the balance of the 345th boarded trucks and headed into the Saar Valley and the German border, where they would rejoin the 87th Division, and once again become part of General Patton's Third Army.

When the trucks passed through Ormignon, France, the men of the 345th realized they were at the front. There was a line of the 87th heavy artillery that stretched out for almost 10 miles in length, and they were busy shelling enemy positions miles ahead. The 345th passed through the line of artillery and detrucked in a reserve area about 500 yards from Gros Rederching.

On December 14 the 345th began an advance with its First and Third Battalions, with the Second Battalion, including E Company, held in reserve near Rimling, France. This was the first infantry attack to be made by the 87th Infantry Division, with the objective being Medelsheim, Germany. Both the First and Third Batallions ran into very heavy resistance and were pinned down.

On the night of December 16 all the E Company Officers and Sergeants were assembled by the Company Commander, 1st Lieutenant Joseph T. Lennon. He told these men that E Company would attack at dawn the next morning, December 17, which was a Sunday. Maps were reviewed and orders given. Sergeant Tuley and his men would get their first taste of infantry warfare. Two tanks would be there to assist E Company in its drive toward their objective, a wooded area 2,000 yards in front of their present position and to the West of Medelsheim. If this wooded ridge could be taken it would take some of the pressure off the First Battalion in their stalled attempt to take Medelsheim. The Third Battalion had tried for two days to secure the woods and the ridge, but had been driven back suffering heavy casualties. Now, the Second Battalion, with E Company in front, would pass through the line of the Third and resume the attack.

Early in the morning before E Company started to move, Tech. Sergeant Jack Parham, in command of the 1st Platoon of E Company, panicked, thinking of the upcoming attack, and had to be releived of his command. Parham was a regular army man with 15 years of service under his belt.

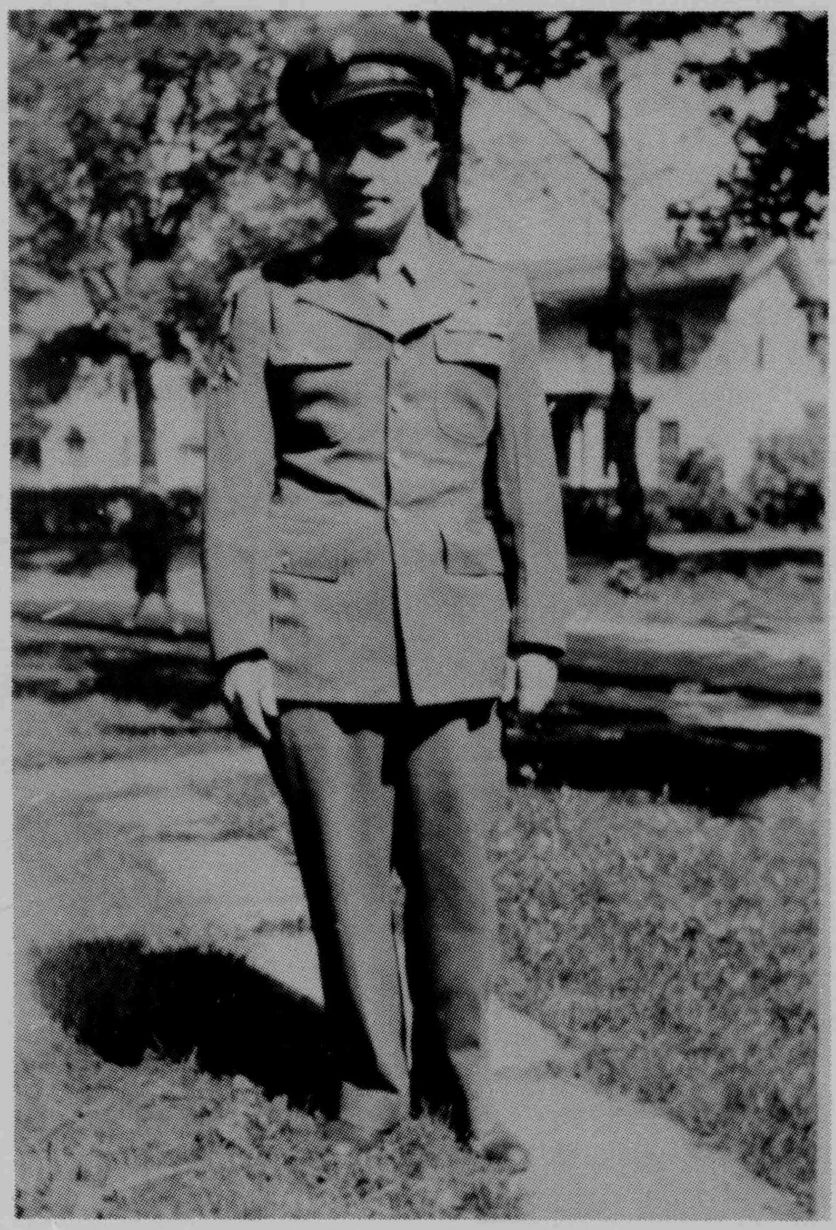
In situations such as this an individual never knows how he will react. Everyone has a certain amount of fear, and some cannot handle the fear. Others have the same fear but are able to control it and still do the job he has to do. Parham was one who could not handle it.

The advance started smoothly, and as E Company moved across the 2,000 yards of open ground there was not much resistance. It was a cold day with temperatures around 15 degrees, and a light snow was falling. The Germans kept firing at E Company with mortars. As they drew closer to the woods they were confronted with heavy machine gun and rifle fire. It was then that Tuley lost his first man. Pfc. Roger Isaacs was wounded by rifle fire and had to be evacuated. After the war Tuley visited Isaacs and his family in Chicago. The advance continued under heavy fire and the men entered the woods to a depth of about 300 yards when the rifle and machine gun fire came to a halt. There were a few minutes moving forward without any opposition whatsoever; then all hell broke loose. The German artillery zeroed in on the woods, knowing full well that the shells would explode as they hit the trees and the shrapnel would come down on the American troops. The advance continued for a short time, but the bombardment was so heavy, inflicting so many casualties, that the advance was stopped.

The order was given to pull back out of the woods, about 400 yards and dig into a defensive position with the expectation of a counter attack. The ground was frozen solid, making the task of digging with entrenching tools almost impossible. However, most of the men were able to dig out some sort of a cover for themselves.

After the withdrawal, taking their wounded with them, Sgt. Tuley discovered that one of his men, Charles Titone, was missing. Tuley, figuring that Titone may still be back in the woods, and wounded, turned the squad over to his second in command, Sgt. William Fowler, stating that he was going to re-enter the woods to search for Titone. Pvt. Max Wirick immediately volunteered to go along, and the two of them went back into the dense woods that they had just left. They immediately encountered machine gun fire, but continued the search. After moving forward about 200 or 300 yards with no success at finding Titone, Tuley and Wirick started back. The Germans opened up with their artillery again, and Wirick was severely wounded.

Tuley recalls that Wirick turned a pasty, gray color and immediately asked for water. Remembering back to first aid classes in training, Tuley knew that water could prove to be fatal with the wounds Wirick had. He threw Wirick's canteen and all of his equipment away and started to walk Wirick out of the woods. Every time a machine gun opened



Pfc Max Wirick of Sgt. Tuley's squad. Tuley saved his life on Dec. 17, 1944 when he carried the wounded Wirick, under machine gun and heavy artillery fire, to safety. Wirick spent three years in an army hospital before being discharged. This picture was taken in 1947 while he was still a patient at the hospital in Lansing, Michigan.

Staff Sergeant Tuley pictured at a Luxembourg Rest Camp in 1945. He looks a little older than the earlier photo taken after his first promotion in 1942.

fire, or artillery shells started to come in, he had to throw Wirick to the ground and wait until the fire let up before continuing.

After what seemed to be an eternity, Tuley got the soldier back to where the medics could take over. Wirick underwent major surgery in a field hospital in the rear, and even though several of his organs, including his spleen, had been ruptured, he lived, and Tuley visited him in Hudson, Michigan several years after the war. Tuley received the Bronze Star for his action.

Ironic enough, Titone, it was discovered, had become separated from his platoon and had joined the 1st Platoon.

About 2:00 that afternoon the expected counter attack started when the German forces, with two tanks to assist them, moved toward the E and F Company troops.

Two tanks that were to have been sent to assist E Company when the attack first started in the morning had failed to appear. Now the Americans were badly out-numbered, and were facing two enemy tanks. However, Artillery Observers with E Company were able to phone the tank positions back to the line of artillery, and American Artillery destroyed one tank while the other turned and left the scene.

The German Infantry came on, inflicting heavy casualties once again on the E Company men. Even though outnumbered, E Company held their ground and the counter attack was stopped, and the Germans retreated.

Late in the afternoon the two American tanks that were to be used to support E and F Companies appeared, creating a very reassuring attitude among the men. E and F Companies would spend the night in their present holding positions and resume the attack in the morning of December 18.

Prior to moving out on December 18, Colonel Lehrfeld, commanding the Second Battalion, sent the following message to Colonel Sugg, commander of the 345th Regiment:

> "Heavy casualties E and F Companies. F Company Commander killed. Battalion Executive Officer wounded. E Company 49 percent casualties. Have beaten back a counter attack. Continuing the advance.--Lehrfeld."

The attack did continue with the men threading their way through mine fields that had been laid down by the Germans after their counter attack had failed. Once again the German artillery barrage was heavy along with rifle and machine gun fire. After an advance of about 600 yards the Germans left their positions and retreated into Medelsheim. E Company, with support from F Company on their left, and using the two tanks for support, had cleared the wooded ridge, clearing the way for other units to move in for an assault on the town itself.

Medelsheim now had units of the 345th Regimant on three sides of the town, but resistance in the form of German artillery was still heavy enough to keep the American troops from entering the town.

December 19 was spent with the two opposing forces exchanging artillery barrages. That night a patrol of the 345th Regiment was sent into town to try and determine enemy infantry strength in the town, and also to determine if there were many civilians in the town. Americans were always reluctant to destroy a town with artillery when there were a lot of civilians still there.

When the patrol returned later that night, they reported that many civilians in Medelsheim were wounded and in dire need of medical attention. When the patrol returned to the 345th Regiment positions, they brought with them eight French civilians who had been used as laborers by the German officers.

Later, once again under the cover of darkness, a larger patrol made up of a doctor, a first aid team and several infantry men to protect them, re-entered the town to render first aid to the civilians. Few Germans were left in the town, and they probably knew the patrol had come in order to render assistance to the wounded civilians, and they just continued to evacuate Medelsheim.

On the morning of the 20th, the 345th Regiment moved into Medelsheim with only light resistance from German artillery, and secured the town.

Medelsheim was the first German town taken by the men of the 345th Regiment. It had been a four day battle with E Company having had almost half of their men either killed or wounded. Other units of the 345th also suffered heavy casualties, but E Company sustained the heaviest loss of any of the Infantry Companies in the 345th.

The units of the 345th Regiment were now placed in defensive positions in the area of Medelsheim, and the 44th Infantry Division would pass through their lines and continue to push the Germans deeper into Germany.

Trench Foot, a dreaded disease to the Infantry Soldier, now began to take its toll. The weather had been very cold and the ground was covered with several inches of wet snow. For four days the men had suffered through with wet feet and socks, with no opportunity to take care of their feet, and many of them became casualties needing medical attention. They were casualties just as the wounded men were. Fortunately, E Company suffered fewer cases than other units.

On December 23, the 345th Regiment was evacuated by trucks and taken to Cutting, France, some forty miles to the rear. Here they would get some rest, hot food, and precious mail. These were things they had not had since they left Metz earlier in the month.

E Company was quartered in some farm buildings outside of Cutting. It was the first time since they had left Metz that the men were able to rest indoors. All during the battle in the Saar Valley they had suffered through snow and temperatures around the 15 degree F. mark. It was good to be inside.

Christmas Day dawned bright and clear, but cold. A hot turkey dinner was served to everyone. The nicest Christmas gift was in looking up to the sky and seeing Allied planes flying once again. It had been almost two weeks without air support because the weather had been so bad. Now the fly boys were at it again.

The men of the 345th were unaware that the German Army had broken through the American defenses along the German-Belgium border between Malmedy, Belgium and Echternach, Luxembourg, and had penetrated to a depth of fifty miles into the Ardennes Forest, creating a tremendous bulge into the Allied lines and threatening to split Allied forces in two.

This rapid advance by the Germans with massive forces came as a complete surprise, and newsmen called it the Battle of the Bulge. This attack was the reason the 87th Infantry was pulled out of the Saar Valley.

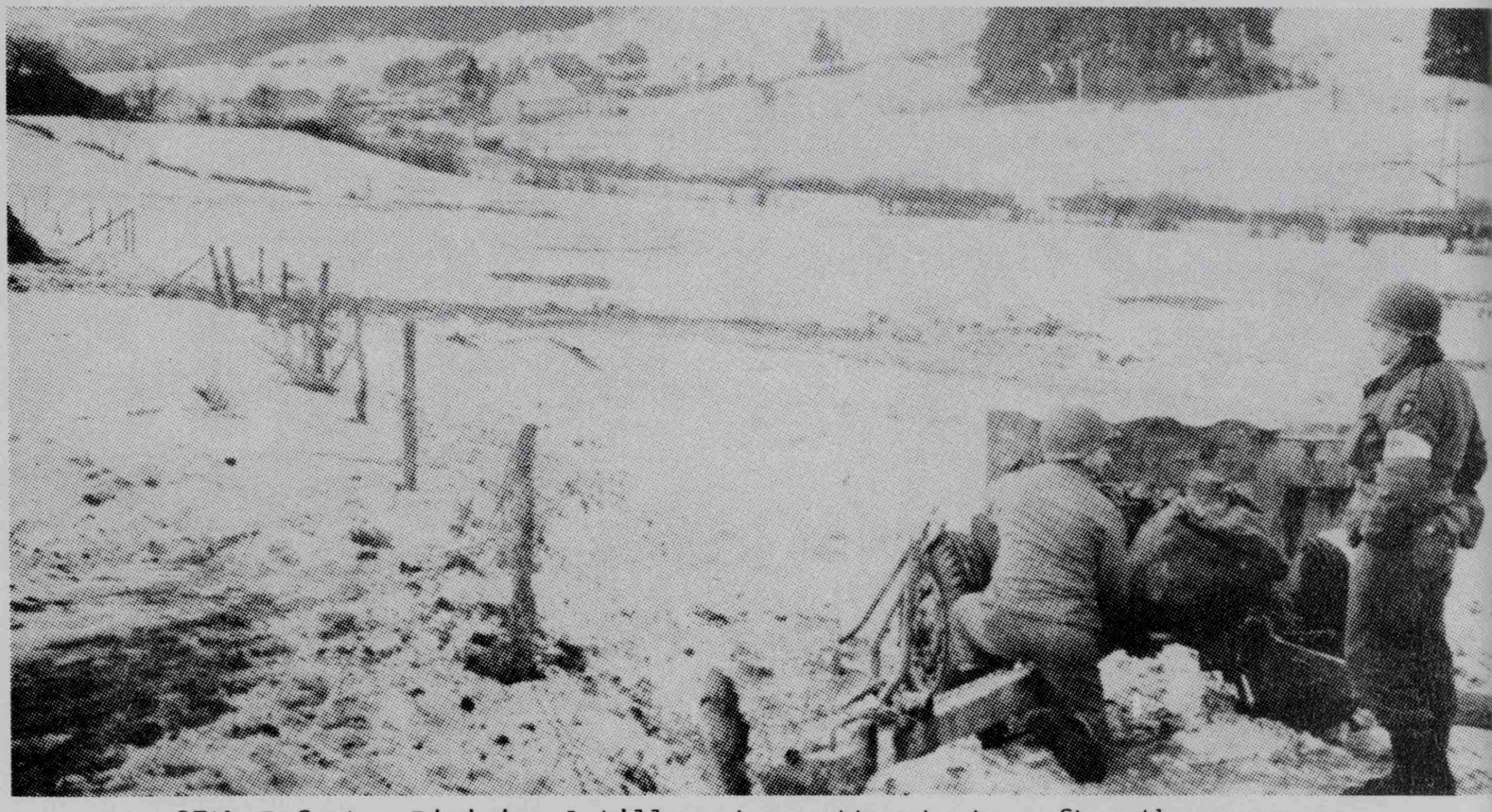
On Christmas night all the men were surprised to get the order to pack up and prepare to move out. After darkness had fallen the trucks moved in without headlights, and the men were loaded into them for an unknown destination. The temperature had fallen to zero by the time the trucks started to move out. It was impossible to keep warm, and the men sat close together for added warmth in the trucks.

This was a very secretive move in order to hide the whereabouts of General Patton's Third Army. As an added precaution the 87th Division, a part of the Third Army, was temporarily assigned to the XV Corps of the Seventh Army. In an effort to provide even more secrecy regarding the move, the convoy avoided all major towns and highways, using only what Americans would refer to as "country one lane roads."

All night long the convoy wound its way through France, and on December 26 the men were unloaded in a bivouac area between Epoye and Biane in France, just 15 kilometers from the Cathedral City of Reims. The stop here was only intended to be a short rest period in order to get the men into Reims for hot showers and new clothes, something they had not had since entering Metz early in December. Taking the hot showers was quite an experience in itself. The men stripped completely, outside, in temperatures just over the zero mark. After stripping the men were allowed to put on their overcoats and shoes, but no socks, and then move into a line to await entrance to the shower building, where about twenty men could shower at a time. As you entered the building you shed your overcoat, kicked off your shoes and entered the shower. When it was full the door was closed and the hot water was turned on for one minute to allow everyone to start lathering up with soap. After everyone was covered with soap the water was turned on for two minutes for rinsing off, then you entered another room to towel dry, and then into another room for brand new clothing. It was quite

345th Infantry Regiment demolition men looking for land mines in the vicinity of St. Vith, Belgium during the battle of the Ardennes (Bulge) in the bitter winter of 1945.

E Company went without food and supplies for several days because it was impossible to get supplies through the snow. This photo taken of an E Company jeep stuck near St. Hubert, Belgium shows just how bad conditions were in the Bulge.



87th Infantry Division Artillery team attempts to soften the enemy position to make it easier for advancing 345th Regiment soldiers during the Battle of the Ardennes (bulge). They were in an open and vulnerable position. Note the First Aid man looking very unconcerned.

an assembly line affair.

The mission of the 87th was to provide protection in the event of another German breakthrough to the Southwest. At the same time weapons had to be cleaned, or replaced. Replacements were also brought in to bring the division back up to combat strength. This was especially helpful for E Company, as it had lost half of its men, and also for the entire 345th Regiment that had carried the load in the Saar Valley Battle.

Reassignment back to Patton's Third Army came on December 28, and on the 29th the 345th Regiment was on the move again headed for an area 19 kilometers southwest of Moircy, Belgium on highways 26 and 28. They were headed into the Bulge. On December 30 the regiment was ordered to clear Libramont and Recogne, Belgium and to continue east along Highway 26 toward a vital enemy-held crossraod at Pironpre, Belgium. This mission was accomplished by the First and Third Battalions. The Second Battalion, which E Company was a part of, was dug in a wooded area surrounding Seviscourt. The Battalion was ordered to bypass Seviscourt and attack Remange on December 31, with E and F Companies once again leading the way. The road to Remange was heavily mined and under a German artillery barrage. E Company, with F Company on their left flank, gradually moved into the town, cleared it of snipers by going house to house until the town was cleared of enemy resistance, and continued the advance to occupy the high ground to the North of Remange. Once again there were casualties, but nowhere near the casualties E Company had suffered in the Saar Valley. There were, however, many German casualties and prisoners taken. By 6:30 that night E Company and the rest of the Second Battalion was dug in, along with a heavy snow fall, their mission accomplished.

The drive to push the enemy back out of Belgium continued. St. Hubert, which is located near Bastogne, was taken, then St. Vith and Tillet. All of this action was taking place in miserable weather with the temperature hovering near zero and snow in many places reaching a depth of three and four feet.

On January 12, E Company occupied Tillet, after driving enemy forces from the town, and was relieved by K Company. E Company pushed ahead to the northeast toward Chisogne. No opposition was encountered there, but as the company turned north they encountered a huge open area, approximately 500 yards in depth and a mile in length. The only way to get to the wooded area on the northern edge of the open area was to go directly across the open field. This field was knee deep with snow, and if the enemy had forward artillery observers in the woods the company would be perfect targets for an artillery barrage. Sgt. Tuley was told to take a four man patrol across the field in an effort to draw enemy fire. The patrol stood out like a sore thumb against the

white snow, and had not gone very far when artillery shells began to fall around them.

With each burst the men would bury themselves in the snow, but snow will not stop shrapnel. Each time they got to their feet they would move out in a slightly different direction, or angle. They finally made it into the woods, and turned east in an attempt to find the artillery observation post. It was relatively easy. After about twenty minutes of moving ahead as silently as possible, they came upon a well secluded three man outpost that had a good view of the field the company had to cross. Tuley's patrol completely surprised the Germans and killed two of them. The third, although wounded, tried to get away and was shot and killed by Sgt. Tuley. After ripping out the phone lines, Tuley left two men to guard the outpost while he and the fourth man recrossed the field without incident, and led the company back into the woods without a shot being fired at them. The Bulge was truly collapsing.

Moving out to the north, E Company rapidly moved into Menil, Fosset, Orreux and on to Sprimont with little or no opposition, but taking a few prisoners along the way. As E Company approached Sprimont, a combat patrol was sent out in advance of the company. The patrol captured an enemy outpost and from their prisoners, learned of a strong machine gun emplacement guarding the main approaches to the village of Sprimont.

Private First Class Marvin C. East set out alone to reduce the machine gun position. Wading through an ice filled creek, he reached the rear of the enemy emplacement. Finding himself atop a steep, smooth embankment, he slid down, using his school day cellar door technique. He took the Germans manning the machine gun position completely by surprise. Killing two who resisted capture, he took the remaining five in charge and double timed them to the rear.

As the company entered the town, German soldiers were seen in the first house at the edge of the village. The Americans surrounded the house, and sent one of their prisoners into the house to advise the enemy that they were surrounded and it would be adviseable to come out with their hands up to surrender. A total of nine German soldiers came out and turned themselves over to the Americans.

The First Battalion took over the occupation of Sprimont, while E Company and the Second Battalion moved on to Roumont.

On January 13 and 14 the 87th Division began pulling out of Belgium and headed for Luxembourg, leaving E Company and the rest of the 345th Regiment to guard the area that had just been taken. For this rear guard action the 345th was temporairly attached to the 17th Airborne Division.

On January 15, the 345th was ordered to rejoin the rest of the 87th Division in Luxembourg. For more than

five hours the 345th Infantry Regiment rolled south, over snow and ice covered roads with sub-freezing temperatures. Military guides met them on the outskirts of Luxembourg City and directed the various units to their respective areas.

The 345th Regiment's area was a seven thousand yard front along the west bank of the Sauer River. The southernmost end of the line was the almost deserted city of Echternacht, called by General Patton, Commander of the Third Army, "The shoulder of the Bulge."

This was a different type of warfare. The enemy was on the east bank of the river and in one corner of Echternacht, with the 345th on the west bank and in most of the city of Echternacht.

Patrols of both forces were active every night, with their missions the same; to try to take a prisoner and reconnoiter the terrain on the other side. During this lull in the fighting, which really amounted to a "wait and see what happens" period, a few of the men were allowed to go into Luxembourg City for a day of relaxation, taking in a movie or whatever one wanted to do. It was a wonderful change of pace for the men.

On January 23, Lt. John Larson was ordered to take a patrol across the Sauer River, take a prisoner and reconnoiter the enemy's position on the east bank.

A four inch blanket of newly fallen snow covered the ground. Lt. Larson and his men worked their way down the steep bank to the river's edge and began to wade across. The water was deeper than reported and overflowed into the hip boots the men had been issued for this mission. In spite of this and the sub-freezing temperature they were able to cross the river.

On the opposite shore they came upon a cluster of three houses. Lt. Larson divided the patrol equally to search each house while he set out alone, to follow enemy tracks freshly made in the snow. Surprising a German, he took him prisoner and sent him back under guard across the river to Regimental Headquarters. Half of the mission was now accomplished.

Keeping two volunteers with him, Lt. Larson set about the reconnaisance phase of the assignment.

As they approached a fortified area almost directly opposite Echternach, they encountered an enemy patrol. Lt. Larson called on them to surrender; instead, they elected to fight.

Lt. Larson attempted to fire on the shadowy figures, but found his weapon frozen solid. Sgt. Waite and Private Leonard immediately engaged the enemy and covered Lt. Larson's withdrawal. With their mission now completed in finding the enemy stronghold, the patrol moved to a covered position near the river bank where they worked their way upstream to the crossing point and returned to their headquarters.

The following day all three men were awarded the Bronze Star for their excellent work.

The Luxembourg visit terminated as quickly as it began. The 76th Infantry Division relieved the 87th, with the 417th Regiment moving into the 345th's area. The exchange was completed on the morning of January 26th, and seven hours later the 345th was again on the road, retracing their steps to Belgium at Limerle where Regimental Headquarters resumed operations.

On the night of January 27 the 345th was alerted for a move back to St. Vith, Belgium to relieve the Seventh Armored Division. By January 29th the exchange of troops was completed and the 345th moved out to take the town of Setz. Three roads led to Setz. F Company followed the left road directly to Setz, while E and G Companies took the right road which would take them to Schlierback, two kilometers west of Setz. The center road was taken by I Company. The troops moved ahead about a thousand yards before any resistence was encountered, and this came in the form of artillery fire with some casualties.

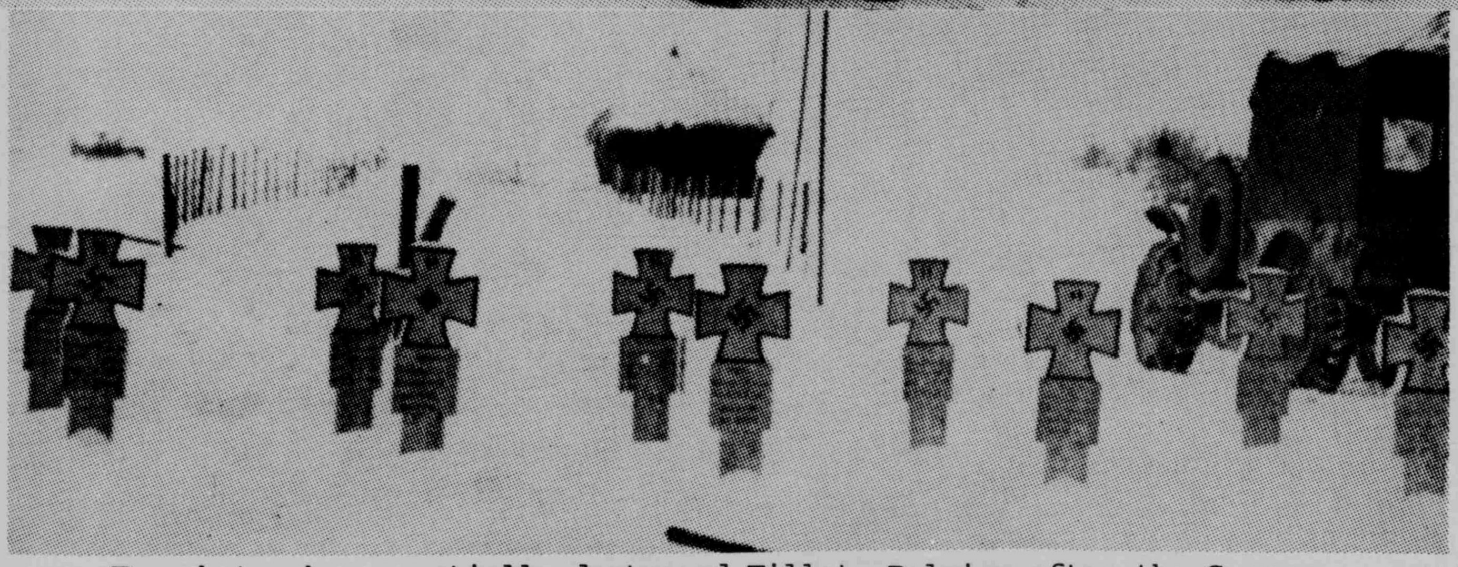
About one kilometer from Schlierback, E and G Companies ran into stiff resistence from German Infantrymen who opened fire from well concealed positions. Attacking swiftly, the German positions were overwhelmed, with all but one of the enemy being killed. Resistance continued to stiffen as they approached Schlierback. The Germans countered the advance with 88 artillery and anti-tank fire, along with small arms fire. The shelling was so severe that E and G Companies were delayed getting into Setz until the following day.

Shortly after arriving in Setz, E Company was ordered to move East, following G Company, with their objective to take Rodgen, due east of Schlierback, the village they had captured the day before. Once again the troops met heavy machine gun and intermittent artillery fire, but by 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon Rodgen was occupied at the cost of only a few wounded.

Two hours after Rodgen was seized, Lt. Welch headed a patrol out to locate the route to be followed to Schonberg the following day. The patrol had to fight their way through small arms fire and waist deep snow. After dark the Germans sent up flares in an unsuccessful effort to locate the patrol. By 11:00 P.M. the route to Schonberg was located, and Lt. Welch's patrol returned with five prisoners. In the meantime, the Second Battalion Command Post, which had moved into Schlierback after its capture by E and G Companies, underwent heavy shelling by German Artillery. Two men were killed and nine others wounded in the attack.

The next day's assignment was to take Schonberg and Amelscheid. E Company was to lead the assault, followed by F and G Companies.

E Company moved into Schonberg from the south, meeting



Top photo shows partially destroyed Tillet, Belgium after the German forces were driven out. The bundle at the rear of the truck is a dead German soldier covered with a tarpaulin.

Bottom photo shows hastily prepared graves of German troops when they were driven from Tillet, Belgium during the Bulge.

little resistance. However, a high hill on the opposite bank of the Our River was a source of constant danger.

Atop the hill stood a cluster of thirteen houses, from which German machine-gunners and riflemen could launch a rain of fire on the main highway through the village. Company F was assigned the task of cleaning out this pocket. They moved toward the houses under a withering fire, and several of the men were wounded. Finally, all thirteen buildings were taken with all the Germans being either captured, killed or wounded.

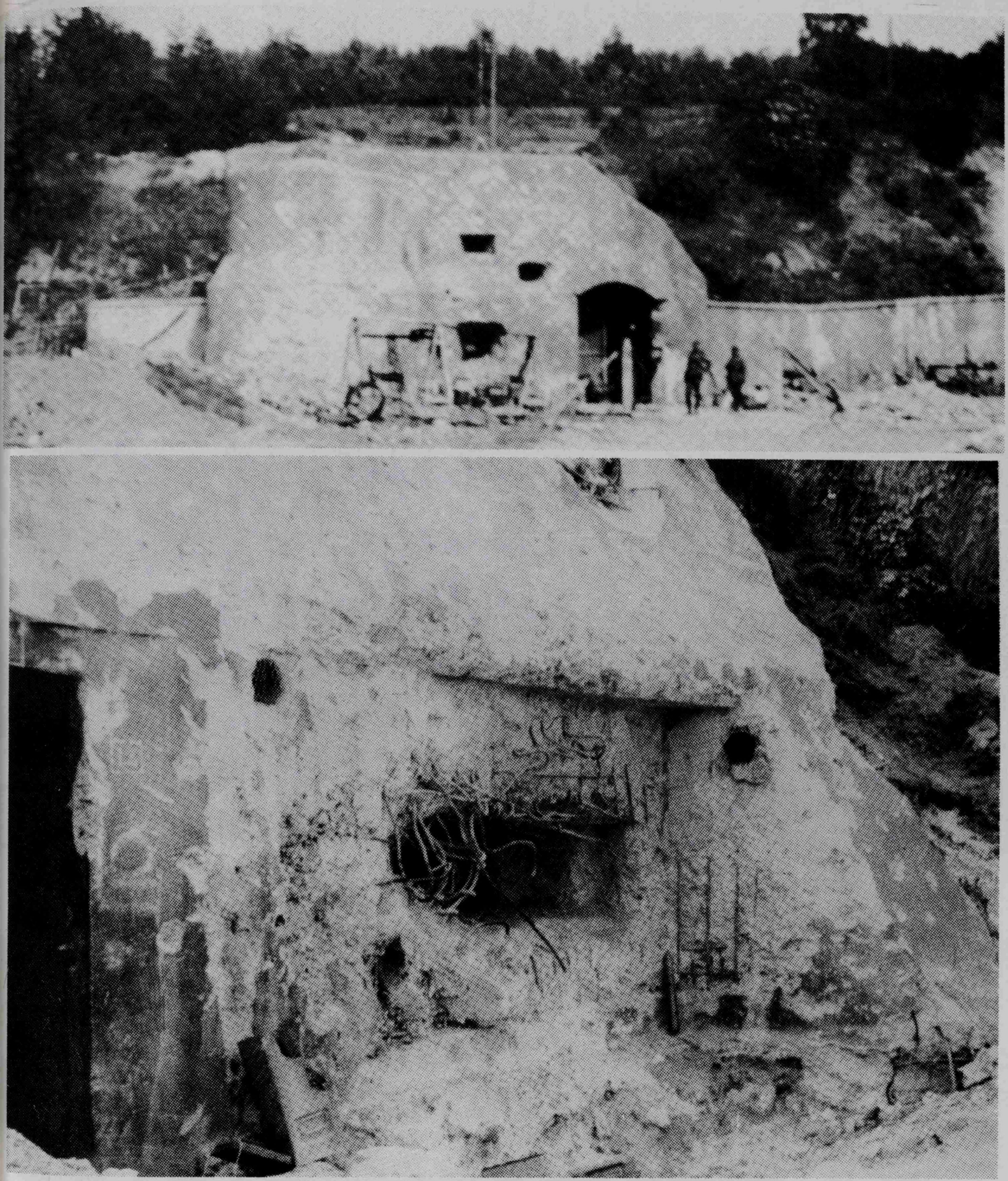
G company meanwhile had made an encircling movement to Amelscheid from the south. They ran into a terrific artillery barrage, "screeming Mee-mee's", direct fire from tanks, and long range machine gun fire, stopping their advance. E Company was ordered to attack Amelscheid from the north in order to take the pressure off G company, and the town was finally taken by both companies.

The speed of the eastward advance from St. Vith to Schonberg had created a serious supply problem. Blinding snowstorms, below freezing temperatures, combined with the treacherous terrain made the roads impassable to trucks. Dense woods added to the blackness of normal darkness, reducing visibility to a matter of two or three yards. Still, the much needed food, ammunition and medical supplies had to get through.

Carrying parties were organized by the Cannon and Anti-tank Companies to overcome the hazards imposed by the elements. Supplies were trucked as close as possible to the front, and from here carrying parties took over, to make the final trek of four kilometers directly across country. The terrain was mountainous, and the burden was heavy, but the carrying parties kept plugging until they made it. Thus the supply lines were kept open by hand and strong backs, and the front line fighting men received their ammunition and food.

On February 4 the Second Battalion and E Company moved into Auw. The 345th was now back in Germany, less than two thousand yards from the first barriers of Hitlers vaunted Siegfried Line. The area to the immediate front was covered with dense pine forests, concealing an important supply road running parallel to the line's fortifications. Within the 345th's attack boundaries lay two vital crossroads, heavily guarded by gun positions, huge concrete and steel pill boxes, and natural barriers. Midway between the two junctions, a series of "Dragon's Teeth", consisting of steel rails crisscrossed and pilings sunk deep into the ground, stretched across the road and the fields on either side.
In many places, the woods had been cleared to provide clear fields of fire for the Germans manning the strongly fortified gun positions.

Intelligence reports indicated extensive troop movements along the road. One patrol, operating in the area during



E Company led the attack of the 345th Infantry Regiment against the famous Siegfried Line. The Second Battalion, including Bill Tuley's E Company received the Presidential Citation for being the first American troops to penetrate the Siegfried. Over 300 fortifications were destroyed. Two of the fortifications are shown here.

Lt. Ben Silver of the Headquarters Staff of the 345th Infantry Regiment stands beside the sign that tells the story. The Siegfried was supposed to be invincible, but the 345th Regiment made it seem easy.

the night of February 4th and 5th, saw heavy German traffic moving in all directions through the crossroads most of the night.

The attack order for the 345th came on the morning of Feb. 5th. Colonel Sugg, Commander of the 345th Regiment, assigned one crossroad, three kilometers due east of Kobscheid, to the third Battalion; and the other crossroad two kilometers to the south, to the Second Battalion. Each was assigned a platoon of tanks and tank destroyers for mobile support.

A pent-up feeling of confidence pervaded the Regiment, for everyone realized what this attack meant. They were driving into Germany for the second time, but now they were coming up against fortifications almost as old as Nazism itself. It meant destroying pill boxes covered by six feet of reinforced concrete and four inches of armor plate. It meant traversing roads sewn with tellermines, and through woods infested with antipersonnel mines and booby traps.

By 1:00 P.M., three pill boxes, along with 15 wooden bunkers, had been destroyed and 100 prisoners taken.

Two valuable lessons were learned this first day of the assault on the Siegfried Line. The first was to work cautiously to the rear of a fortification, locate its blind spot, and rush in fast with grenades and bazookas. The second was to utilize a coordinated fire from tank destroyers and tanks, under cover of which the foot troops moved in close and timed their final charge with the lifting of the supporting fire.

By late that afternoon several more pill boxes had been destroyed and an additional 79 prisoners were taken. No German soldier escaped the assault of the 345th, and many were either killed or wounded. The following morning G Company headed southeast toward the main highway, running generally north and south behind the first series of Siegfried defenses. Resistance was scattered, with sniper and small arms fire interspaced with occasional artillery fire.
As they approached the highway, however, the Germans opened up with fire from self-propelled guns from the vicinity of a small group of houses about 80 yards to the south. G Company Commander ordered his men to spread out and establish a base of fire on the buildings. E Company was then ordered to attack the flank of the village to take the pressure off G Company. So violent was the attack by E Company that the enemy was routed, and even three "Tiger" tanks were forced to withdraw, and the hamlet, known as Jadghs, taken in 35 minutes. Eight Germans were killed and 35 more taken prisoner.

The First and Second Battalions of the 345th continued the advance through the Siegfried Line, with the task of taking Kobscheid and then Olzheim. The advance was slow and K and L Companies suffered heavy casualties. At one point a German soldier ran out onto the road waving a white flag of truce. As soon as the firing stopped, he very quickly

spread mines across the road and ran back into the woods.

The pill boxes were expertly hidden, and not readily seen by the advancing troops. They created such havoc with L and K Companies that the advance was halted and the men dug in for the night. It became evident that no movement could be made without more tank support the following morning.

Additional tank support did arrive the following morning, and before long all of the remaining pill boxes in this area were destroyed. The next objective, Olzheim, lay just two and a half kilometers to the southeast.

The Second Battalion of the 345th Infantry Regiment received a Presidential Citation for being the first unit to breach the vaunted Siegfried Line. The final count of the Second Battalion's assault on the Siegfried line showed that the unit had destroyed 33 pill boxes.

Olzheim was important because it was on the main supply line that served Prum, then under assault by the Fourth Infantry Division on the right flank of Prum. This meant that if Olzheim, and the road between the town and Prum could be taken, supplies could not reach the German troops located in Prum.

The move onto Olzheim was a very slow advance with some resistance along the way, and the closer the First and Second Battalions got to the town the stiffer the resistance became. As mentioned earlier, Olzheim was important to the German supply line, and they were determined to hold it at any cost. It was heavily protected from the front and both flanks. It wasn't until the afternoon of February 8th that Olzheim was finally secured. It was another victory for the First and Second Battalions of the 345th, but many men were killed and many more wounded in taking the heavily fortified town. Lt. Knusman, commanding G Company, was killed in the assault, and Tech. Sergeant Joe Schaetzel took over Command of the company. After the battle was over, Sgt. Schaetzel was promoted to lieutenant.

The town of Nuendorf lay just half a kilometer north of Olzheim. A patrol was sent out to determine enemy strength there. The patrol returned at 7:30 P.M., reporting they had seen little activity, and that the streets of Nuendorf seemed to be deserted. The patrol, along with a full platoon of men for support, was ordered to return and enter the town.

When they entered the town it was discovered to be loaded with Germans in well concealed positions in every building on both sides of the one and only street leading through the town. The members of the assault force were split in half to cover each side of the street. One side would cover the other with heavy rifle fire, allowing each side in turn to work close to each house and throw grenades through the windows and doors. As the men were working down the street, a German vehicle came down the street from the north end of the village. The driver, totally unaware

of what was going on, was quickly captured. Lt. Callen jumped into the drivers seat, and as many of his men as the vehicle would carry climbed in also, and they drove through the town like gangsters with sub-machine guns, spraying lead into every building.

By 4:00 in the morning most of the village had been cleared, but a captured German soldier informed Lt. Callen that there were approximately six Germans still hidden in houses on the northern edge of the town. This information had no sooner been received when the Germans mounted a counter-attack that was finally repulsed. By 7:00 A.M. on Feb. 9th, Nuendorf was finally cleared once and for all.

The 345th established defensive positions around the town, waiting for a huge counter attack that was rumored would take place. Nuendorf was on the same route where Field Marshall Von Rundstedt had over-run the ill-fated 106th Infantry Division early in December, when they forced their "Bulge" into Belgium. Colonel Sugg had received supposedly valid information that the attempt was to be made again, with 5,000 assault troops and a full division of tanks.

He placed the First, Second and Third Battalions of the 345th in a line, backed up with tanks and artillery, and waited for Feb. 10th, the expected day of the attack. The day of the 10th came and went, but no German attack came. Their supply line had been broken, and when an underground telephone cable leading north out of Nuendorf was discovered and cut, their communication line was no longer able to serve them.

During this operation that started on the 9th of February, over 60 German prisoners were taken. However, the 345th once again sustained heavy casualties.

On February 11, the 345th Regiment was notified it would be relieved by the 346th and the 345th would return to Auw for a much needed rest. It was a chance to clean up, get new clothing, replace equipment, and relax before the next assignment.

The attack order for the 345th came on Feb. 19. They were to move back through the Nuendorf area, and to secure the wooded and open area just to the west of Reuth. The attack was set for the 26th of Feb., but the move to the point of attack had to be made as quietly as possible, at night if possible. However, the weather cooperated with rain and fog. An early thaw had turned roads into quagmires, making vehicular traffic almost impossible, and miserable for the foot soldiers. However, the move forward was made on time, and at 3:00 P.M. on the 26th the attack was started by the 345th's Second Battalion with E Company in the lead, followed by F and G Companies in that order. An hour and a half later E Company was held up in a draw one kilometer east of the jump off point. Snipers opened fire, and soon mortar shells began dropping all over their area, inflicting heavy casualties. Lt. Ford, Tech Sergeant Howe, and one

squad of men were able to ford a stream and cross an open field to the next patch of woods. The Germans let the one squad cross, and then opened up with machine gun and mortar fire. The stream afforded protection for men of E Companies wounded until they were able to be evacuated. Lt. Ford and his squad stayed in the booby-trapped woods until nightfall, when they were able to infiltrate back across the stream. An attempt to move to another area was thwarted by a booby--trapped field. E Company's attack was stalled.

Engineers went to the aid of E Company with primacord in an attempt to clear a path through the minefield. The woods, however, proved to be too dense, and after several unsuccessful attempts, they were forced to return.

E Company was now at a standstill, and in a very dangerous and vulnerable position. Realizing the danger that threatened E Company, Col. Sugg, Regimental Commander, sent L Company due north from Nuendorf to by-pass the mine field that held E Company in its grip. Moving onto the high ground one and a half kilometers away, they were able to take the pressure off E Company, which allowed them to clear a path through the mines and continue on to their objective.

The attack continued, with Neuenstein, Neureuth and Reuth still to be taken. So far, during the first 28 hours of the battle, the 345th Regiment had taken 62 prisoners, but at a cost of one hundred twenty five casualties to the regiment, and the battle was not yet over. The German soldiers were fiercely contesting every inch of ground taken by the men of the 345th. Evidently, they could see the end of the war and were determined to make every victory for the 345th a very costly one.

On March 5th the battle ended with all three towns captured and secured. Lasting eight days, the battle had cost the 345th over 200 casualties, while the Germans suffered around 200 casualties with one hundred sixty men being captured by the 345th. March 5 was the last day of the battle, but it was to be the calm before the storm. The troops were able to be served hot food and receive new, dry socks, and new issues of ammunition.

General Culin and General McKee, commanders of the 87th Division, along with General Ford, the Division Artillery Commander, were behind locked doors meeting with Colonel Sugg, the 345th Commander. The plan for the next battle was being formulated. The 87th was to move to the Ahr river with all the speed it could muster. With the mud getting deeper every day, it could be a difficult task. Intelligence reports had said that the Germans were now on the run and all units should mount swift attacks in order to keep them on the run.

The towns of Steffein, Lissendorf, Birgel, Weisbaum, and Mirback lay in their path. Now, however, the resistance was light, with only small pockets of strong resistance.

In each of the towns that were taken, white flags were flying from the windows of the buildings when the troops entered. The 345th had reached the Ahr river in just two days and two nights, covering a distance of fifteen miles. Previous advances had been measured in yards a day, stubbornly contested and through an almost constant rain of fire from enemy artillery, mortars and automatic weapons.

The men of the 345th were to spend four days of resting at the present positions before heading for the Rhine river on March 13. Taking advantage of the rest, the men were able to get hot showers, new clothing, see a movie or two, and clean their equipment.

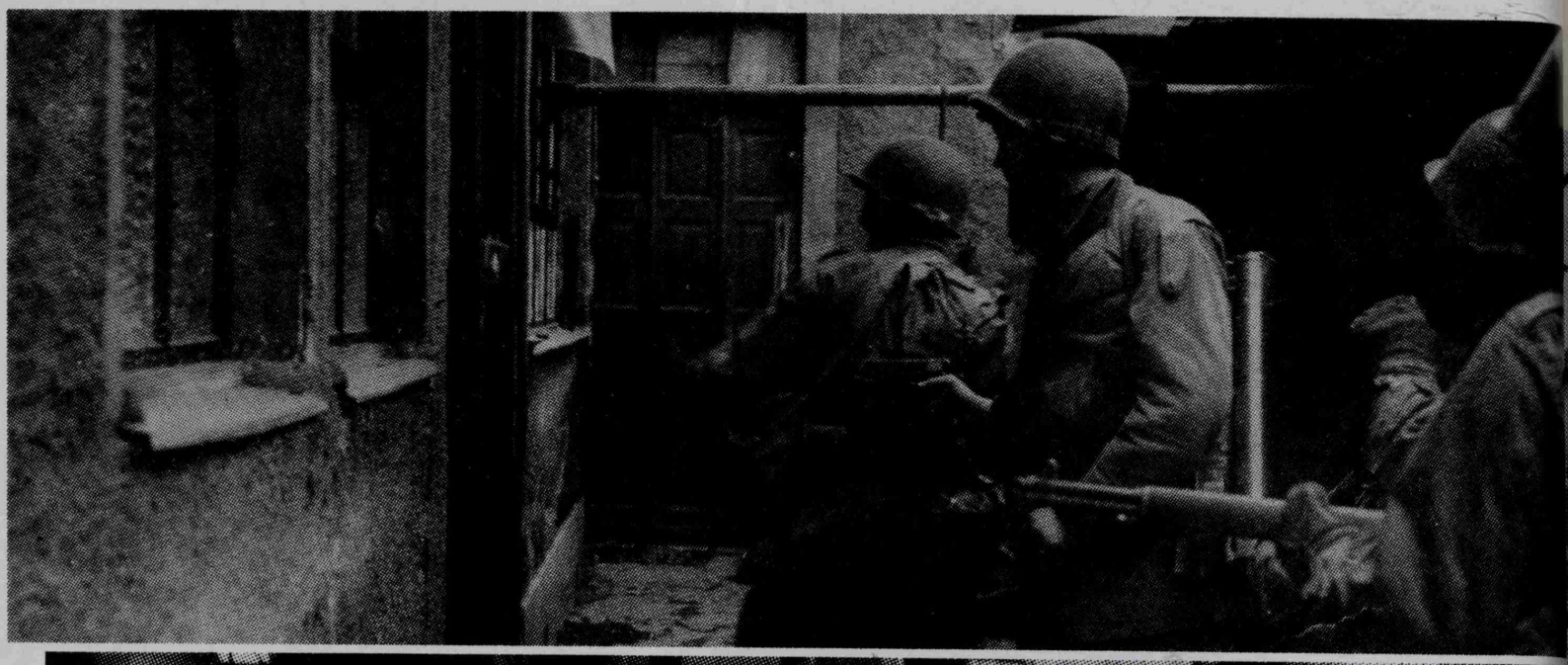
March 13 arrived and the 345th was on the move, with all units of the 87th Division. This time there were trucks to transport the troops, and good roads to travel on. The men of the 345th thought they were heading for the Rhine River. They were heading for a river, sure enough, but it was the Moselle River instead of the Rhine. It was a race to the river, passing through many small villages without even checking to see if enemy soldiers were there. Many German vehicles, trucks, tanks, half tracks, and even horse-drawn vehicles were on the road, all demolished and burned-out from air raids that caught them on the road. Many dead horses were strewn over the roadway. It was hard to believe that the Germans were so hard pressed for motorized vehicles that they had to resort to using horses. If they were that hard up there was no way they could stop the onslaught of the American forces.

The Germans had anticipated the area where the Moselle would be crossed, and they were correct. As the river was approached, the troops could see many hand-printed banners posted on the river banks. Such signs as "Onward, Slaves of Moscow", "Expecting Love--Finding Death", "See Germany and Die", "Life is Short--War Long", were a few of the signs that welcomed the 345th. It was an apparent attempt to destroy the morale of the American troops.

The objective of this drive was the fortified city of Koblenz. This would be the second time in thirty years that American troops entered this German resort city. The first time was in 1918 when the American forces entered the city on the heels of the retreating German Army. Later, this city became the headquarters of the Army of Occupation and remained under American control until 1923.

The Moselle River ran north and south on the western edge of the city. The Rhine river, running the same direction as the Moselle, was on the eastern side of the city. The plan of Colonel Sugg was to have some units cross both the Moselle and the Rhine to attack the city from both the north and the south. The Second Battalion would attack by crossing the Moselle directly west of the city on the night of March 16.

Koblenz was the last major strong point in West Germany.



The battle for the city of Koblenz was not easy. It was street to street, house to house. The German soldiers did not give it up without a fight. Pictured here are E Company soldiers and a machine gunner looking for German snipers who remained hidden in the rubble of the buildings.

Another photo of E Company soldiers hunting for snipers in the fortified city of Koblenz, Germany.

If the 87th Division could capture this city there was literally no way to stop them from reaching Berlin. The German High Command, realizing the importance of holding Koblenz, had sent in their crack SS Troops to stop the American drive.

By 7:00 A.M. on March 17, E Company had fought their way into the western edge of the city, capturing 145 prisoners. By nightfall the 345th had taken a total of 744 prisoners, and the city. Although not completely cleared of enemy SS Troops, the city was pretty much under the control of the 345th.

The job of clearing Koblenz, a city of 90,000 people, started on the morning of March 18, and consisted pretty much of house to house combat, street by street. Again, by nightfall the majority of the city had been cleared of the enemy, and many more prisoners were taken. Surprisingly, the casualty rate for the 345th was relatively light, not near the number the regiment had sustained in other battles.

One major obstacle remained, Fort Konstantine, located on the pinnacle of the peninsula formed by the junction of the Rhine and the Moselle Rivers. Built to defend the city from an attack from the east, its stone and concrete walls were six to eight feet thick, and cut three stories deep into the hillside. History says the fort was originally built in the 16th Century and named after the German Emperor Konstantine. It had of course been added to and improved through the ages, but the original fortifications were still intact.

By noon on the 18th the fort was completely surrounded by the 345th, and Lt. Colonel Moran called for a cessation of hostilities to have a talk with the Fort Commandant.

At first the Nazi Commander, a Captain, declined to talk with Col. Moran. He refused to believe the battle dirty soldier was the Commander of the Third Battalion of the 345th. Colonel Moran calmly unbuttoned his sweater, showing his silver maple leaf and the dickering began.

The German Captain asked for an armistice in order to evacuate his wounded men. Col. Moran replied by saying that he would take everyone in the fort or no one would leave alive. The German officer replied that he could not surrender, as he hhad direct orders from Hitler to hold the fort. He tapped his Iron Cross on his chest and said he would not surrender.

After his sales talk had dried up, he said Col. Moran not only didn't have an insignia, but he didn't have a heart. Said Col. Moran, "I'm not short of artillery though,", and gave the German officer a half hour to surrender the fort.

Thirty minutes later the officer reappeared and made a proposition to Col. Moran. The German Commander stated that he could not surrender while the Americans were outside the fort, but if they came inside with tanks and infantry he would surrender. Of course the answer was "no", with the statement that he and all of his forces come out with

Top photo shows German civilians being used to clear away the rubble from the streets of Koblenz.
The bottom photo shows that the fortified city of Koblenz is now in the hands of the 87th Infantry Division, 345th Regiment.

their hands up. The officer returned to his redoubt and the battle continued.

While this debate had been going on, the Medical Detachment had set up operations in a German hospital only about a hundred yards from the fort. Private First Class Horsten learned from a German nurse at the hospital that there were twenty soldiers in the fort who were willing to surrender if they could get safely to the American lines.

Acting on his own, Horsten gathered up twenty Red Cross arm bands and gave them to the German Florence Nightengale with instructions for the twenty German soldiers to wear them as they came out of the fort. That night she entered the fort.

Early next morning Pfc. Horsten went to the appointed rendezvous and waited. BGefore long twenty German soldiers, all wearing the Red Cross arm bands, came marching out of the fort.

The 345th forces had moved in close to the fort during the night, and now started to fire machine guns and high explosive shells through holes the tank destroyers had blown in the seven foot thick walls. The incessant pounding brought results.

At 8:30 A.M. on March 19, the Nazi Commander led eight enlisted men and fourteen officers out of Fort Konstantine under a white flag. He wore all his medals on his chest and his uniform was spotless. Col. Moran needed a shave, his sweater was covered with dust and dirt, his trousers baggy; but he carried a cane in order to add a little class to the surrender of Fort Konstantine.

With the fall of Koblenz and Fort Konstantine the 345th Regiment found itself at the last barrier to inner Germany, the Rhine River. The entire regiment was strung out from north to south on the west bank of the Rhine with the Second Battalion on the south end of the line.

The Psychological warfare team of the 345th moved up to the river's edge. They succeeded in persuading three men, one a representative of the Burgomeister, to brave a crossing of the river from Nieder Lahnstein. Although the Wermacht fired at them with machine guns, they made the crossing unharmed, and after awhile they returned with valuable information. They reported that the civilian populace was anxious to cooperate with the American troops but German troops were still present and in complete control of the civilians.

One of the three also reported that there were eighty Volkstrum troops in the town of Ober Lahnstein; forty at the north end and forty at the south end. They had arrived the day before, hand carrying their equipment and marching on foot, to relieve the SS troops in the area. The departing troops were reported to have moved out afoot and on horseback, and in wagons, for they had no vehicles or gasoline. The message was clear. The vaunted SS troops would not stay

Photo above shows German prisoners captured when Company E crossed the Moselle River.
Below is a photo of Guls, Germany where Company E, 345th Regiment crossed the Moselle River.

to face the music. They chose to leave it to the young recently recruited Volstrum troops.

Earlier that morning, residents of Ober Lahnstein had hung out white flags, but the German troops had ordered them removed. As the man who had reported about the troop movement of the Germans was making this report to the Americans, white flags again appeared in the town. Asked if he was going to try and make another crossing that night, the civilian replied, "No, I cannot go back until I bring the Americans with me."

On the morning of March 25, E Company crossed the Rhine in assault boats. The objective of the Rhine crossing was the town of Filsen. German troops opened up with maching gun fire in an attempt to stop the crossing, but E Company made the crossing without any casualties. However, as soon as the troops landed and attempted to scrramble up the river bank, they were pinned down by intense enemy fire. They were now in a very vulnerable position with very little cover to protect them from enemy fire. The 345th Tiger Patrol had crossed the river earlier on the south edge of Filsen. Their early crossing was made in order to be able to render assistance to other units, such as E Company, when they crossed. G Company had followed E Company and they had trouble going ashore. The Tiger Patrol went to their assistance, and then the two units, acting together, took the pressure off E Company and allowed them to fight their way into Filsen. The Germans withdrew, and as soon as they had evacuated, their artillery launched a barrage of 20 mm. and mortar fire on the town, ignoring the fact that all the civilians were still in the town. Many civilians were wounded and some killed, all at the hands of their countrymen in a useless defense of the town.

By 2:30 in the afternoon Filsen was firmly in the hands of the American forces. E Company continued through the town and into the high ground east of the town to capture the enemy artillery units. This mission was accomplished by late afternoon, and some of the artillery pieces were even captured intact and in working condition and could now be used against the enemy.

Twenty four hours after the assault began the 345th Infantry Regiment had complete control of the east bank of the Rhine and occupied the towns of Filsen, Camp and Lykershausen. The myth of the Rhine River being a natural barrier, one that could be defended for a long period of time and keep American forces from entering inner Germany, had been exploded by the 345th Regiment.

On March 28, the 345th moved another eight miles into Germany with the three Battalions of the 345th strung out in a line from north to south, pushing eastward. The towns of Rettaut, Eshbach, Dalheim, Ehr, Mauenfeld, Geisig, Pohl, Holzhausen, Oberfishbach, Mittelfischbach, Katzenienbogen, Zolhaus, Schierheim, Rucheishausen, Hausen, Beindroth, Berghaus-

en, Mudushaugen, Pehl, Neifertiefenbach, Roth, Eigeshausen, Bleidenbocherof, Laizeneinbogen and Hehtenids were taken. During this twenty four hour period a total of 349 prisoners were taken. Resistence had been light except for small pockets of fierce defense by the Germans. Casualties were also light, but some of the 345th men paid with their lives. Several officers were wounded and Capt. Rudersdorf, Commanding E Company, was killed.

With little or no rest the 345th drive continued on the 29th and 30th, capturing twelve more towns and 435 additional prisoners, and the 345th had now pushed another 28 miles deeper into German.

On April 3, the regiment had reached Butzbach on the Frankfurt-Berliner Ring Autobahn. This main, modern highway would provide fast and easy traveling deeper into Germany.

April 4 saw the regiment on the move again. Some troops were on foot, others rode tanks and tank destroyers, moving to Brandoberhof, Hersfeld, Rassdorf, Dankmaeshausen and Honebach. No resistance was encountered, and scores of prisoners were taken, most of them coming out of hiding in wooded areas and from buildings in the small towns, volunteering to surrender. Then it was quickly on to Klinschmalkalden, Schnellbuch, Heiger and Schweina.

The first resistance came on April 7 near Tambach, which was the hub for all roads in the area. All the roads leading into Tambach had road blocks that were defended by SS Troops using machine guns and bazookas. After an hour's fire fight the defenders withdrew into Tambach, leaving 30 dead SS Troops behind them.

Open fields surrounded the twin cities of Tambach-Diehartz, forming an easily defended moat between its buildings and the woods on the surrounding hills. Strategically located homes, schools and churches provided the defenders with emplacements offering excellent fields of fire on all sides. It was evident that Tambach-Diehartz would have to undergo artillery barrages before the infantry could move in. All night long six 105 mm Howitzers rained a total of 650 high explosive shells into the city.

Early on the morning of April 8, the 345th met the widely heralded Hitler Jugend (youth) when they counterattacked in force. The youths, supported by one German tank, dashed wildly across the open fields, running right toward the American lines. They were fanatical and showed no fear or caution. In less than a half hour the fight was over. The tank was destroyed and there were 44 Hitler Jugend dead in the field. Twice that many were wounded and the rest captured. Some of the Jugend were as young as 13, and none were over 18 years old. At 5:00 P.M. the troops entered Tambach. Once in the town the Americans were surprised to learn that they had now liberated sixty-two Canadian Commandos, taken during the Dieppe raid on the coast of France in August of 1942. They had been prisoners for two

This 13 year old German soldier, a member of the Volkstrum was captured at Ober Lahnstein when Company E crossed the Rhine River. German SS troops had evacuated the town and left the young Volkstrum troops to defend it. Many of them were killed when they charged E Company across an open field. This 13 year old seems to be happy he survived.

This was the scene that greeted Company E when a small concentration camp was liberated at Ordruf, Germany. German troops had evacuated the camp leaving only the dead behind.

Wounded men of E Company are brought back by the same boats that took them across the river. Sergeant Tuley's boat was sunk by machine gun fire, but the men were able to wade ashore.

and a half years. Also liberated were a group of American soldiers, a Lieutenant Colonel, a Major, three Captains and twenty enlisted men. These men were members of the 106th Infantry Division and the 101st Airbornne Division, all captured in December, 1944, when Field Marshall Von Rundstedt's troops crashed through the Ardennes into Belgium to create the bulge.

On April 9 the Second Battalion of the 345th headed for Frankenheim, their next main objective. On the way, the town of Schwarzwald was in their path, but it was cleared in short order. Secondary roads were travelled, leading through dense woods. Road blocks and mine fields, all heavily defended, were continually in their path, but one by one they were cleared and more prisoners taken. By 9:00 P.M. the Second Battalion was two kilometers from Frankenheim. The advance was halted at that point and the troops took up defensive positions and dug in for the night.

By mid-morning on the 11th the Second Battalion cleared Frankenheim, and now the entire 345th Regiment was into the open country of the Thuringian Plain. The 345th had been leading the drive for several days, and they were now placed in reserve for a much needed rest, giving the troops a chance to clean up, rest, and check their equipment.

After two days of rest the 345th, with the Second Battalion in the lead, started their drive again, taking the towns of Grafenroada, Angelroda and Neusis in that order. Then they moved on Crawinkel, Chrenstein and then Rudoulphstdadt was captured. Here, hundreds of Czech, Russian, Polish and French Nationals were liberated. American troops now had to devote their efforts to controlling the liberated civilians as they ran wild and started on a looting spree that could not be tolerated.

After order had been restored and camps for the various liberated nationals established, the 345th moved onto Possneck and then into Pausa. The next objective was to be Plauen, a major industrial city of 111,000 prewar population located in Eastern Germany. For several days American bombers by the hundreds had been flying in an easterly direction over the heads of the 345th. The troops did not know that the target for these bombers was the same as their objective, Plauen. By April 17 the 345th was in Plauen, a dead city, totally destroyed by the American bombers. The textile plants and rail yards and various war plants had been reduced to a heap of red dust and stone. The residential area was not demolished, but every building had sustained some damage. It was the most complete destruction of a city the American troops had ever seen.

In order to get through the city, bulldozers had to preceed the troops, pushing the rubble to one side. Street cars were pushed aside like toys. Germany's largest store, the Union Department Store, was a mere shell with all of its merchandise buried beneath it.

AN AMERICAN PAPER FOR AMERICANS — THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER — CITY ★ FINAL

VOLUME CIV.—NO. 89 C [REG. U. S. PAT. OFFICE. COPYRIGHT 1945 BY THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE] FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1945. —34 PAGES THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF TWO SECTIONS—SECTION ONE THREE CENTS PAY NO MORE

—Adm. William F. Halsey Jr.

THE PRESIDENT DIES!

Truman Sworn In, Pledges War Success

NEW EXECUTIVE SAYS HE PLANS NO CHANGES

Asks Cabinet Stay; Takes Oath at White House

BY WALTER TROHAN
(Pictures on pages 2 and 3)
[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, D. C., April 12—Harry S. Truman, one time Missouri farm boy, was sworn in as the 32d individual to become President of the United States in a simple ceremony in the cabinet room of the executive offices of the White House.

He completed the oath, which was administered by Chief Justice Stone, at 6:09 p. m. (Chicago time), 2 hours and 34 minutes after the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Standing behind him was his wife, Mrs. Bess Wallace Truman, his schoolgirl sweetheart, who occasionally dabbed at her tear stained eyes.

High Officials Present

Deployed about him were members of the cabinet to whom Mr. Truman had broken the news of President Roosevelt's death and many high officials. Members of the White House staff peered in thru the three

TRUMAN FACING WAR, PEACE AND DOMESTIC TESTS

BY ARTHUR SEARS HENNING
[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, D. C., April 12—The sudden death of President Roosevelt at Warm Springs, Ga., this afternoon brought the nation face to face with critical problems affecting the war and the peace and with possible changes in domestic policy of incalculable significance.

With Vice President Harry S. Truman sworn in as the 32d individual to be President early this evening the leaders of the government labored far into the night to gather the reins of administration firmly into the hands of the new regime.

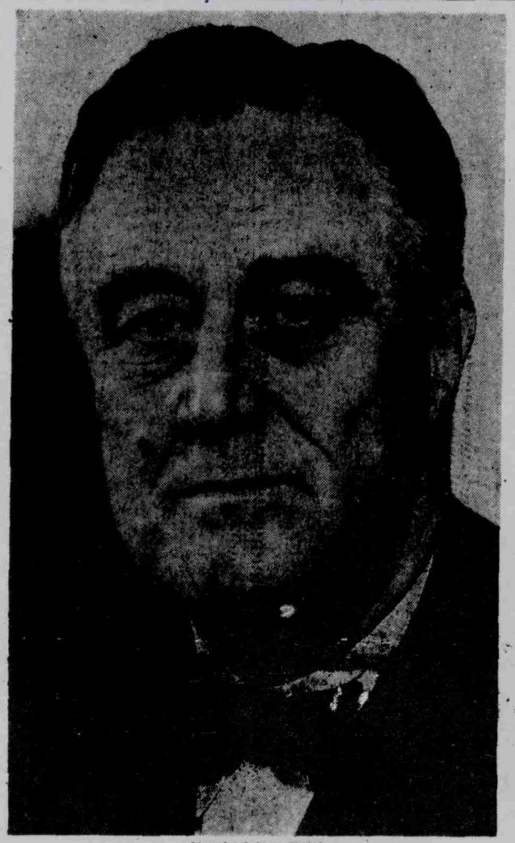
Asks Cabinet to Stay

One of the first acts of President Truman was personally to request members of the cabinet to continue to serve for the time being, at least. It is no secret, however, that eventually there will be numerous changes in the cabinet.

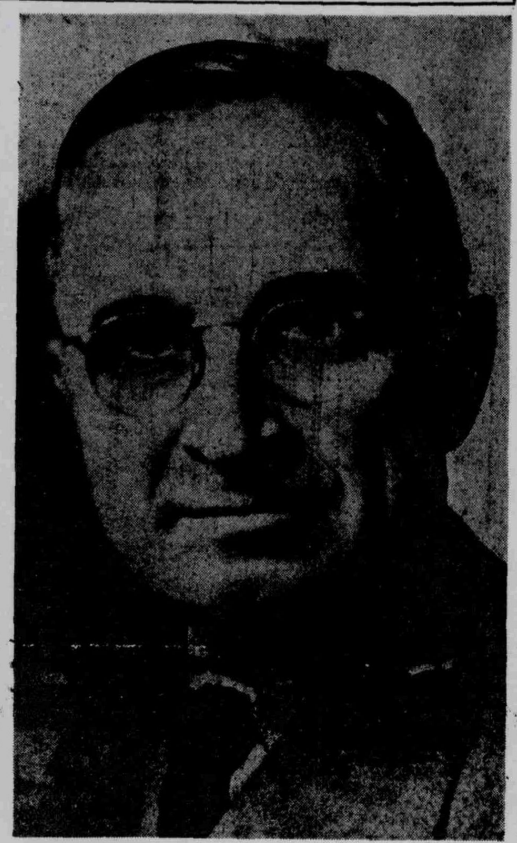
Whether to postpone the San Francisco conference of 45 nations to construct a new league of nations to enforce peace was one of the first questions considered by Mr. Truman. He decided that the conference should go forward as planned and so instructed Secretary of State Stettinius, who is chairman of the American delegation and in charge of preparations for the conclave.

Stettinius later issued the follow-

THE 31ST AND 32D PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES



[Associated Press Photo]
1882—FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT—1945



[Acme Photo]
HARRY S. TRUMAN

Mrs. Roosevelt | ROOSEVELT FUNERAL | *Roosevelt's Health Failed*

STROKE FATAL AS HE VISITS WARM SPRINGS

Succumbs After Complaining of 'Terrific Headache'; Had Been Sitting for Sketches

(Pictures on pages 4 and 5 and back page)

Warm Springs, Ga., April 12 (AP)—President Franklin D. Roosevelt died unexpectedly today at 4:35 p. m. (3:35 p. m., Chicago time) of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Mr. Roosevelt's last words were:

"I have a terrific headache."

He spoke them to Comdr. Harold Bruenn, naval physician.

Presidential Secretary William D. Hassett said Mr. Roosevelt's body would leave here around 9 a. m., tomorrow for the 22 hour run to Washington. Mrs. Roosevelt arrived here late tonight.

Mr. Roosevelt, 63, was sitting in front of a fireplace in the little White House here atop Pine mountain when the attack struck him.

Bruenn described it as a massive cerebral hemorrhage.

No Pain at the End

The President's Negro valet, Arthur Prettyman, and a Filipino messboy carried him to his bedroom. He was unconscious at the end. It came without pain.

Mr. Roosevelt, in the third month of his fourth term as President, came here three weeks ago to rest.

Dr. Bruenn said he saw the President this morning and he was in excellent spirits at 9:30 a. m.

"At 1 o'clock," Bruenn added, "he was sitting in a chair while sketches were being made of him by an artist. (The artist was N. Robbins of New York City.) He suddenly complained of a very severe occipital headache (back

54

The 345th Regiment had to use bulldozers to clear a path for the infantry troops to get through the city of Plauen in East Germany.

Above: Civilians struggle to make their way through the destroyed city of Plauen in East Germany.
Below: Captured German soldiers await evacuation at Plauen.

German women were used to help defend Plauen. Most of them did not wear a uniform, but they were all armed.

The German General in command of the defense at Plauen surrendered his entire army to the 87th Division.

German Prisoners of War were used to help clear the rubble from the streets of Plauen in East Germany.

Two Russian soldiers freed by the 345th Regiment at Plauen enjoy a meal over an open fire. Hundreds of refugees from all of the Eastern European countries were being used to supplement the labor force of Germany and were subsequently freed by the 345th.

German civilians carrying their belongings walk through the streets of Plauen.

AN AMERICAN PAPER FOR AMERICANS

Chicago Daily Tribune

THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER

"Hit Hard, Hit Fast, Hit Often!" —Adm. William F. Halsey Jr.

★★ FINAL

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V-E DAY—TODAY!

MOLOTOV HOLDS ACCORD BALKS PACT REVISIONS

Vandenberg Thinks It Doesn't

BY ARTHUR SEARS HENNING
[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

San Francisco, Cal., May 7—Twelve hours of the higher diplomacy today brought the international conference to abolish war to a state of confusion worse confounded.

These were the outstanding developments of the day:

1 Russian Foreign Commissar Molotov, about to depart for Moscow, asserted at a press conference that the Big Four powers had rejected the proposal of Sen. Vandenberg [R., Mich.] member of the American delegation, under which the partition of Poland could be reviewed.

2 Vandenberg in a statement disputed Molotov's interpretation, asserting that while the amendment would not apply to treaties with the enemy it would apply to agreements among the allies such as that affecting Poland "so that we are not called upon to freeze injustice in a static post-war world."

Seek to Save Monroe Doctrine

3 The Latin American countries spearheaded a movement to save the Monroe Doctrine from impairment, if not extinction, under the Dumbarton Oaks provision which would require the United States and other American republics to get Europe's permission to enforce it.

4 The smaller countries demanded a modification of the veto power in the security council enabling the Big Five powers to

Chicago Turns to Next Step: Lick the Japs

BY CARL WIEGMAN
(Pictures on page 10)

With emotions wrung dry by a series of war climaxes, Chicagoans will receive the official announcement today that victory has been achieved in the war in Europe.

It will be a sober day—almost a sorrowful day—because of the realization that another war needs to be fought in Asia and because of the memory that the price of V-E day was paid with the lives and blood of many Chicago sons.

Here is how Chicago will observe the day of thanksgiving, to be proclaimed at 8 a. m. [Chicago time] by President Truman:

Churches will be open. The call to prayer will be sounded by the great bells of Holy Name cathedral, the chimes of First Methodist church at Clark and Washington sts., and the 43 bell carillon of St. Chrysostom's Episcopal church. All churches have arranged special services. [Details on page 27.]

Full Speed in War Plants

War plants will operate—full speed ahead—turning out weapons for V-J [Victory over Japan] day. Government and labor leaders joined in asking all workers to stay on their jobs.

Taverns and liquor stores will be closed in Chicago for 24 hours after the Presidential proclamation in obedience to a city ordinance. Cook county police have been instructed to shut all county liquor establishments.

Downtown retail stores will be closed all day. The State Street council announced all store employes need not report for work, if the peace proclamation is issued before the regular opening hour. Other stores thruout the city also are expected to be closed in accordance with plans arranged by the Chicago Retail Merchants association.

Schools and Courts Close

"GOOD WORK, GENERAL!"

GERMANS QUIT BOHEMIA WAR

Unconditional Surrender Terms Accepted

King Leopold of Belgium and Queen Freed by Yanks

(Pictures on page 5)

WITH THE U. S. 7TH ARMY, May 8 [Tuesday] (AP)—Leopold III., king of Belgium, and his queen have been liberated by the United States 7th army, it was announced today. They were found near Strobl, eight

War Summaries

LONDON—Nazis give up in Czechoslovakia. Page 1.

GUAM—Americans advance on

BIG 3 PROCLAIM VICTORY AT 8 A. M.; UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER SIGNED

Truman to Address Nation by Radio This Morning

W-G-N to Carry All

A five minute broadcast by President Truman will be heard over W-G-N and the combined American radio networks at 8 a. m. today. Immediately following the President, the networks will rebroadcast from BBC in London Prime Minister Churchill's speech to the British empire.

Plans also call for talks by King George, Gen. Eisenhower, Field Marshal Montgomery, and Field Marshal Alexander, and an eyewitness broadcast of the signing of the armistice in Reims, France.

The President's proclamation, as well as the broadcast from London, will be pooled by all the networks.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, D. C., May 7—President Truman expects to proclaim Victory day in Europe tomorrow on his 61st birthday, the White House reported tonight.

On the basis of reports already received, the Chief Executive will address the nation at 9 a. m. [8 a. m. Chicago time] unless unforeseen developments force a change in plans.

This announcement by White House Secretary Jonathan Daniels was taken as complete confirmation of London reports that the President, Prime Minister Churchill, and Marshal Stalin would announce V-E day at that hour.

A Day of Mystification

AP TELLS HOW IT GAVE THE WORLD HISTORIC STORY

(Picture on page 4)

[BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

The Associated Press disclosed exclusively yesterday morning that Germany had surrendered completely and unconditionally.

A rigid official news black-out still prevented formal allied announcement of the fact, but this was expected today approximately 24 hours after the Associated Press dispatch.

Edward Kennedy, chief of the Associated Press western front staff, who scored the news beat—acclaimed by editors thruout the United States as one of the greatest in newspaper history—was indefinitely suspended from all further dispatching facilities by supreme headquarters in Paris.

For nearly seven hours after Kennedy got out the news in a brief but detailed and factual dispatch dated from Reims, France, the suspension was applied to all Associated Press correspondents in the European theater of operations, but this subsequently was lifted for all except Kennedy.

Germans Tell It First

The Germans themselves first announced that they had surrendered, in a broadcast at 7:38 a. m., Chicago time, yesterday. This was without confirmation of any sort until Kennedy's dispatch was telephoned from Paris to London nearly an hour later and was flashed on the Associated Press wires in the United States at 8:35 a. m., Chicago time.

Several hours later the British

Britain to Celebrate with Two Day Holiday

Three Picture Pages and Reviews of War

On the back page are pictures of celebrations marking the end of the war in Europe.

On pages 8 and 9 are pictures showing the rise and fall of Nazi Germany.

A strategical history of the war is on page 7.

A chronological history of the war is on page 6.

LONDON, May 7 (AP)—Complete victory in Europe was won by the allies today with the unconditional surrender of Germany.

President Truman, Prime Minister Churchill, and Premier Stalin are scheduled to proclaim the historic conquest simultaneously at 8 a. m. (Chicago time) tomorrow from Washington, London, and Moscow.

Germany's formal capitulation came at 2:41 a. m. (French time) in the red Reims schoolhouse, headquarters of Gen. Eisenhower, five years, eight months and six days after Hitler invaded Poland.

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Plauen had been the textile center of Germany since the Saxons had built the city 700 years ago. The old Town Hall and market place had been built in 1500. Now they had all been destroyed. Centuries-old historic places throughout Germany had now been reduced to heaps of rubble by the war.

More than 5,000 French, Dutch, Belgian, Russian and Polish slave laborers were liberated in Plauen. They had to be placed in camps to prevent looting. Even German civilians had to be stopped from looting. They too were hungry and had suffered much.

The German Seventh Army was between the 87th Division at Plauen and the Czech border. They showed no signs of wanting to surrender, so the 87th troops went after them. All it took was a few brief skirmishes to convince them the war was over. The Commanding General of the German Seventh Army surrendered himself and the entire Seventh Army to the 87th Division. One factor that may have prompted his surrender to the Americans was the fact that the Russians were closing in on him and he preferred to surrender to the American forces.

The war was over for the 87th Infantry Division, the 345th Regiment and Bill Tuley's E Company. On May 8, 1945, the announcement was made. Germany had surrendered its forces unconditionally. V-E Day had arrived at last.

Even during the closing weeks and days of the war when the German officers and soldiers knew that the end was near, they bitterly resisted every inch of ground the 87th Division advanced on. For the most part they remained well disciplined and determined, a credit to the history of the German military machine.

By the end of the war, Tuley's 345th Regiment had travelled 1,290 combat miles through France, Luxembourg, twice into Belgium and twice into Germany. They had fought through the hills where they had suffered their heaviest casualties in freezing weather. They had gone into the Ardennes (the Bulge) and had pushed the German advance back, once again through freezing weather and knee deep, sometimes even hip deep snow. They had captured the storied city of Koblenz, the mighty fortress on the Rhine River. They had been the first American troops to break through the vaunted Siegfried Line at its strongest point, and in so doing they destroyed an amazing total of 312 pill boxes.

They had cut the Frankfort-Berliner Autobahn and fought their way through the dense woods and mountains of central Germany to break out onto the Thuringian Plain. They had destroyed thousands of Nazi troops and captured a total of 8,096 German soldiers.

In five months of combat the 87th Division had sustained a total of 4,510 casualties. Of this total 1,046 men were killed and another 3,464 soldiers were wounded. In addition, 12 men of the 87th Division were captured by the Germans

and six men, including an officer from Sgt. Tuley's E Company, were never accounted for.

The 345th Infantry Regiment, leading the 87th Division attact most of the time, suffered a total of 1,850 casualties, 377 killed and 1,473 wounded. These figures amount to 41 percent of all the 87th Division casualties.

Bill Tuley's E Company had more casualties than any other rifle company in the entire 87th Division, with 43 killed and 123 wounded. In Tuley's platoon he was one of only eight men of the original group that had trained together and fought together who were not casualties.

87th INFANTRY DIVISION
CASUALTY BREAKDOWN

87TH Infantry div.	Combat Troops	Killed	Wounded	Total	Percent Loss
	8,100	1,046	3,464	4,510	56%
345th Inf. Regiment	2,700	377	1,473	1,850	69%
E Company (345th)	176	43	123	166	94%
346th Inf. Regiment	2,700	264	903	1,167	42%
347th Inf. Regiment	2,700	323	919	1,242	45%

All other units in the 87th Division;
Artillary, Tanks, Medics, Signal,
Headquarters, etc.....251

An Infantry Division is made up of 3 Infantry Regiments of 2,700 combat troops for each regiment making up a total of 8,100 combat troops, plus additional non-combat support troops.

Now that the war had ended, historians started to gather and compile figures for future reference. The following information from the "World War II Almanac: 1931-1945", by Robert Goralski, published by G.P. Putnam's Sons, is only a mere fraction of information, but it does offer a fairly accurate picture of losses of all nations involved in World War II.

There were at least 28 countries involved in the war, making it a truly global war. Germany at one time occupied every country on the European Continent except Sweden, Switzerland and Spain. Also occupied by German forces was a good portion of North Africa and the Mid-East.

*Military dead of all countries.....21,344,135

*Military wounded, all countries.....25,218,000

*Civilians killed.....38,573,000
(does not include the Jews killed)

*Jews killed.....5,933,900

*Total prisoners of war.....3,046,600
(Russia never revealed the total held by them)

*Private homes destroyed.....3,831,958

*Total Military Aircraft losses.....254,157
(Russian aircraft losses are known to be tremendous, but have never been disclosed)

*Total Naval ship losses.....24,542
-all kinds, including Merchant ships-
(Russia has never revealed their Naval losses)

*Total cost to all countries in U.S. dollars **$165,462,000,000**

There is no accurate record of businesses, schools, or hospitals destroyed in the war. The figure would probably be equal to the number of homes destroyed.

Another interesting note is the fact the Nazi's were not the only ones to kill Jews. Other countries were guilty of these crimes as well.

Many people think that the German people were solidly behind Adolph Hitler, but it is known that there were approximately 150,000 students, professional people, and many officers in the military who were opposed to Hitler. Some 2,000 were executed for their part in attempted assassinations of Hitler. There were probably thousands more who would have been extremely happy had he been eliminated.

World War II had ended. This was the war that reverted back to the barbaric days of long ago. This was the war when the civilians were not spared. To the victor belonged the spoils, the right to pillage and rape. War Correspondent Cornelius Ryan in his book "The Last Battle", was able to document the rape of 20,000 Berlin women by Russian troops.

East meets west. Russian officers and officers of the 87th Infantry Division meet at Falkenstein in East Germany.

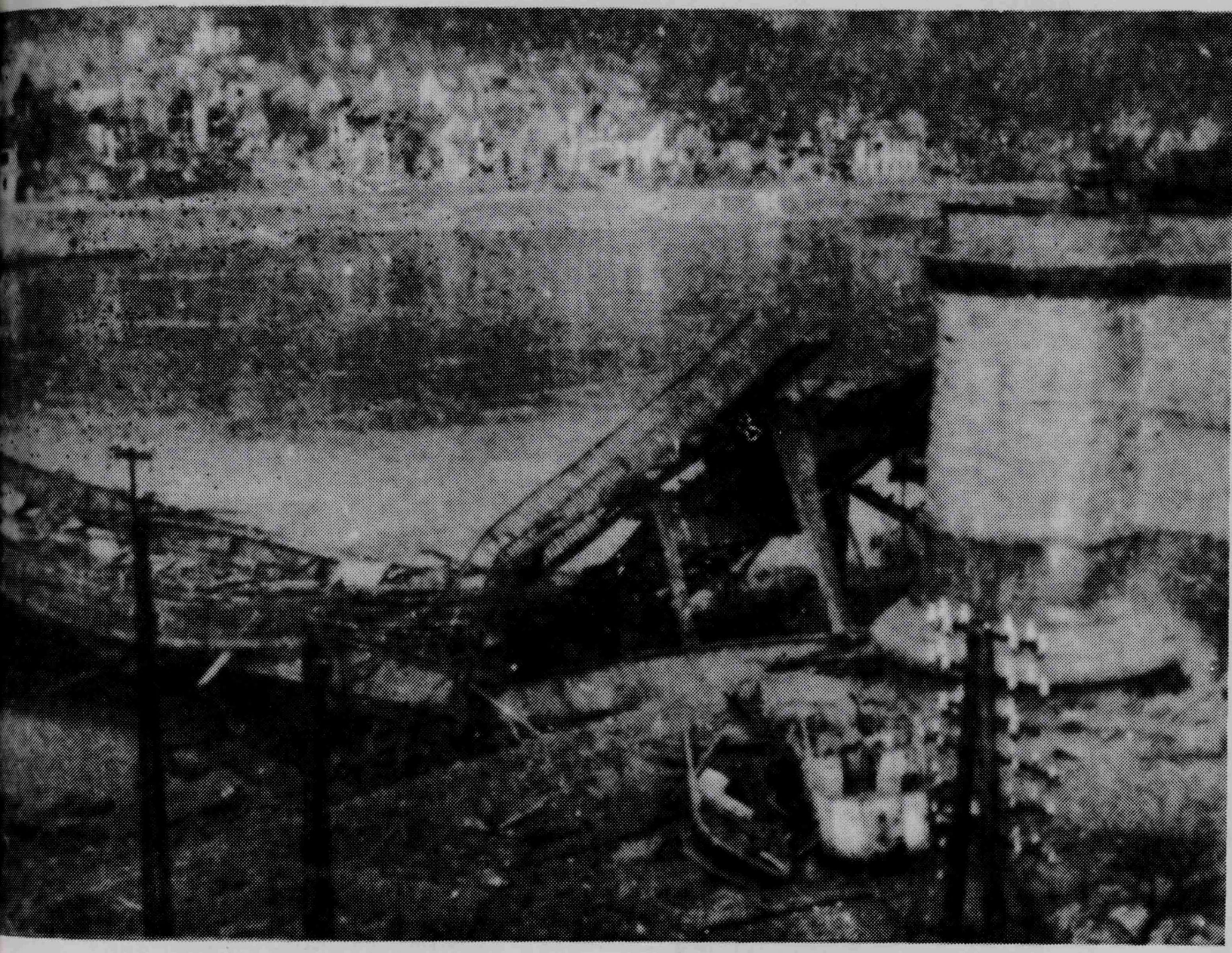
He was sure there were hundreds, if not thousands more that were unreported. Hundreds of women in Berlin committed suicide either because they were raped or over the fear of being raped.

Horrible events take place in war. They are things that should not happen, but they do. The rapes by the Russians; the cruel, inhuman treatment of prisoners of war by the Japanese military; the deliberate murder of 4,000 Polish army officers by the Russians, and their attempt to blame the German military for the murders; the destruction of millions of private homes as mentioned earlier; the bombing of hospitals by both sides; the killng of millions of civilians by both sides.

The days when two armies met in the open to battle each other are now gone forever. There are no honorable bounds any more. Conflict now reaches out in every direction; it touches, kills and wounds civilian and soldier alike.

Troops from all nations now prepared to return to their homes, but for Sgt. Tuley, military life continued with a new assignment.

The Burgomeister (Mayor) of Ordruf conducts funeral services for a mass burial of the dead at the small Ordruf concentration camp.



The bridge near Guls had been blown up by German troops, so E Company crossed the river in rubber rafts.

Photo above shows some of the medals received by Sgt. Tuley. Expert Rifleman, Combat Infantry, European Campaign with three battle stars for major campaigns, Bronze Star, Victory Medal, American Theatre, Bronze Star Certificate and the Good Conduct Medal. Not shown were Occupation Medal for Germany and the Presidential Unit Citation for breakthrough of the Siegfried Line.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT

On May 12, 1945, just four days after the end of the war, Sgt. Tuley was ordered to report to Headquarters of the 12th Army Group to assume new duties in Military Government.

Upon reporting to headquarters in Darmstadt, Germany, Tuley was told that he would be in charge of the office and all enlisted men in Military Government Detachment #77 to be located in Eastern Germany at Zwickau located in the state of Saxony.

Five officers had been assigned to the detachment, but it would be up to Tuley to select the nine enlisted men who would make up the balance of the detachment. He was told to select a man who could cook, a clerk, two truck drivers, an enlisted man who could understand and speak German, and three others to perform whatever duties they were assigned to do.

There were upwards of 750 enlisted men milling around in a huge assembly hall. It was a matter of mingling with these men, talking to them to find out what their specialty was. After two hours of searching, Tuley had completed his staff. All were told to be in a designated area by 7:30 the following morning,, May 14 and to be prepared to depart for Zwickau at 7:45.

Tuley had the enlisted men, but still had not met the officers who had been assigned. When he reported to the officer in charge of making up the various detachments, and reported that his group of enlisted men had been completed, he was taken into another office and introduced to a Major Heuck, who would command the detachment. His second in command would be Captain Franke. Lt. Thomas, Lt. Overby and Lt. Vickers would be the other three officers making up Detachment #77.

Sgt. Tuley was still wondering what Military Government was all about, and what his duties and the duties of the other enlisted men would be. Later that afternoon he was called into a conference with the officers. Tuley was treated as an equal with the officers at this meeting. It was essential that each one knew his area of responsibility as well as the duties of the others. Tuley would be in complete charge of the enlisted men and the office with all paper work that had to be done. It was also his responsibility to screen all civilians who came to the office to talk to any of the officers.

Even though the Allied Forces had won the war, there would now be the enormous task of caring for the German

Military Government Detachment 77 assigned to Zwickau in East Germany. Photo was taken at Darmstadt, Germany before departure for Zwickau. Kneeling left to right: Scheiter, Gorman, Mashburn, Manus, Nitka, Sam Jones.

Standing left to right: Sgt. Tuley, Walker, Lt. Overby, Red Mehmert, Lt. Thomas, Major Heuck. Capt. Franke and Lt. Vickers.

civilians, the refugees from many different European countries and even returning German Prisoners of War.

These people must be fed and have housing. Medical care was an absolute necessity. Local government must start to function as quickly as possible. Nazi Party members had to be removed from any public office they had held. Each detachment had a list of "Wanted Nazi's" to be checked against the list of public officials, bankers, police officials and even public utility officials. Even telephone service, electric and gas service had to be repaired as quickly as possible. Every attempt would be made to find civilian doctors and nurses to staff the hospitals so that they could be reopened. It seemed an impossible task. It would take a long time, but we had to make the start. Germany had to be put on its feet again.

The economy of Germany had been destroyed. There were no jobs and no money. Very little transportation was available. In many instances there was no water supply because of bombed-out water mains. In many areas where water was available, it was too dangerous to drink without chlorination.

Adding to this plight were the thousands of displaced persons from all over Europe, but mostly from the Eastern countries of Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia and Yugoslavia. Indeed, there were even French, Dutch and Belgian civilians.

All of these people had to be placed in their respective camps to await transportation back to their homeland. They all had to be screened, as many Nazi's, in an effort to escape Germany, took on assumed names and tried to lose themselves among the hordes of refugees. All of this is what Military Government was all about.

At 7:45 on May 14, the convoy of three jeeps and two trucks drove out of Darmstdat and headed for Zwickau, located about 125 miles south of Berlin and about 200 miles north of Munich.

After about an hour's drive a halt was called, and Major Heuck announced that he, Lt. Thomas, and Sgt. Tuley would leave the convoy and speed ahead to Zwickau in order fo find suitable quarters by the time the rest of the convoy arrived. He would take Ralph "Red" Mehmert along to be both the jeep driver and interpreter.

Zwickau was both a large and old city having a pre-war population of approximately 84,000 people. It sustained very little damage compared to other cities in Germany.

The Sorbs had settled in Zwickau in the 8th Century after the Teutons had left. The name "Zwickau" has not been fully determined, and it is believed to have had something to do with a bird.

Zwickau became a predominent city among the other towns primarily because of three factors. It was located on the Mulde River, and was situated on two high roads, one leading from the salt district of Halle to Bohemia, and the other leading from Franconia to the Vogtland east to Chemnitz.

Coat of Arms for the city of Zwickau,
State of Saxony in East Germany.

In 929, King Henry I took possession of Zwickau, and the city began to take on a German aspect, as traders and handicraftmen applied their trade and skills in the city.

In 1331, the first school made its appearance, and Zwickau enjoyed a 100 year period of prosperity. However, in 1430 the city was attacked by the Hussite Army of 30,000 soldiers. Zwickau, a walled city at that time, was able to withstand the seige, and after a week was able to completly drive the invaders away.

The city grew rapidly, and when the year 1470 arrived Zwickau boasted a population of 4,000 people. Just 60 years later, in 1530, the city had doubled its population to 8,000 people.

During the "30 Year's War", Zwickau was besieged on nine different occasions, and five times it was conquered. The dreaded plague then set in and in 1633, 6,000 of the 10,000 inhabitants died from the disease.

The war debt of Zwickau from the time of the Smalkaldic War in 1546, the 30 Years War, the Seven Years War and the Napoleonic Wars of 1806 to 1815 created a hardship on the populace and was not paid off until 1817.

The area, rich in silver, coal, iron ore and salt, was to become a major mining center. The first German Church in Zwickau was consecrated on May 1, 1118.

Getting back to Military Government again, the advance group arrived in Zwickau and drove directly to the Rathaus (courthouse, or city building). The Burgomeister was in his office and was somewhat startled to see these American soldiers walk in.

When told by the interpreter that the group had arrived to take over civil control of the city, and that 10 more men would arrive shortly, he couldn't beleive it. 14 men to take control of a city of 84,000 people.

Within an hour the offices of Military Government Detachment 77 had been set up in the Rathaus, and comfortable housing was obtained on the two top floors of a very nice apartment building only two or three blocks from the Rathaus. By the time the rest of the detachment arrived, Military Government was in control of Zwickau.

One of the first things to do was the hiring of civilians to work within the detachment. Mr. Heinrich Emde and his daughter Gudrun were hired as interpreters. Gudrun would also serve as a clerk. Another girl hired was Gudrun's friend Kitty Lorenz. She, too, would be a clerk and interpreter. All three of these civilians spoke fluent English and it helped the detachment to operate smoothly.

As mentioned earlier, care of the refugees was a major problem. There was a large camp for Lithuanians set up just outside Zwickau, and the people were supposed to

remain in the camp awaiting verification of their status and the decision on what to do with them.

One day a group of these refugees left the camp and came into the downtown area. A civilian came running into the office and reported to Sgt. Tuley that these people had broken into a wine store about a block from the Rathaus. All businesses in the city were closed, but they had actually broken into this store and were attempting to carry away as much wine as they could, pausing now and then to drink a bottle. No security troops were in the downtown area, so Tuley left the office and ran to the site. There he found about twenty men looting, shouting, screaming, and drinking to their hearts' content. Unable to make them understand that they were to stop and return to camp, Tuley in desperation drew his revolver and fired it in the air. This they were able to understand. One of the group seemed to be able to understand some English. Tuley was able to make him understand that all of the wine must be put back, and that they would have to return peacefully to their camp. Failure to do so would delay their being sent back home. This was an idle threat, but it worked. They respected the Americans, because they had been liberated by the Americans, and they appreciated it. Before they left to return to camp, the leader of the group invited Sgt. Tuley to attend a party at their camp that night. As a matter of fact, they made Tuley promise them he would come. Then they went back to camp.

That night Tuley and Sam Jones took one of the detachment's jeeps and went out to the displaced persons camp. What a party it was, singing and dancing to native music, eating, and of course, plenty of wine to drink. It seems that they did not put all of the wine back. Tuley and Jones could not have been treated better by anyone, anywhere.

Another incident occured when Sgt. Tuley was alone in the office. This time a report was received that a high ranking local Nazi official was at the bank about four or five blocks from the Military Government office. Of course the bank was closed, but there was a civilian bank guard posted inside. The elderly president of the bank went to his office every day, for what reason, no one knew. It seems that the Nazi official showed up at the bank and the guard admitted him, because he knew who he was. Then the guard called the Military Government office and reported what had happened, stating that he was sure the Nazi official was there to try and get his hands on the local party funds, to enable him to leave the country. Tuley climbed in the jeep, drove to the bank where the guard met him and let him in. Quietly the two made their way to the bank president's office. Tuley drew his pistol, walked in and placed the man under arrest. He was turned over to security forces and it was determined that he was on the wanted list.

Being in Military Government meant an entirely different

life style for Sgt. Tuley. Nice living quarters, soft beds with clean sheets, eating at a dining room table with a table cloth and napkins was great. Tuley didn't know Army life could be so good. Every day the memories as an infantry soldier in the war grew a little dimmer.

The prediction of the Russians taking over Zwickau came true when on June 10 Military Government Detachment 77 was notified that Russian troops would take over control of the city, and all of Eastern Germany on June 16. The Detachment was ordered to cooperate in every way with the Russians, and to leave as soon as the Russians were in place.

The order to leave Zwickau created many anxious and apprehensive thoughts for the civilians. They did not want the Americans to leave. They had a great fear of the Russian troops, but political decisions as to the division of Germany had been made, and there was nothing American Forces could do about it. Two people in particular did not want to stay with the Russians in Zwickau. Two civilian clerks and interpreters, Gudrun Emde and Kitty Lorenz, with the approval of their families, asked to leave with the American Detachment. They were an important part of the Military Government's operation, so they were transported into West Germany as members of the detachment.

The unit went back to Darmstadt for reassignment. The stay there lasted less than a week, and the detachment was split up to form a smaller unit of Military Government. The new detachment was to be called I-385, and the assignment was to be Wegscheid near the Austrian and Czechoslovakian borders. Only two of the enlisted men from the old detachment would go with Sgt. Tuley; Sam Jones and Ralph "Red" Mehmert. New men in the detachment were; Ray Heiber, who was from Tuley's home town of Hammond, Indiana, Gene Borstein from Cleveland, Ray Meyer and Sid Gelfand. Lt. Thomas remained with the detachment and 3 new officers, Captain Henry Walter, Lt. William Dalton and Lt. William Wade. Lt. Dalton brought his own secretary, Ursula Rinehart with him. She had worked for him at his previous assignment.

The stay in Wegscheid lasted only a few days, as suitable quarters for everyone could not be found in the small village. As a result, Detachment I-385 received permission to relocate at Obernzell, a few miles away from Wegscheid and on the banks of the Danube River. The nearest big city was Passau, just across the river. Suitable quarters and office space was found in Obernzell, a small, quiet and pretty village. Offices were located in the spacious home of a local building contractor who had been a ranking member of the local Nazi Party. He was told that the American Military Government was confiscating his home to be used as office space and living quarters for the officers. The lower floor contained the offices while the second floor had sleeping quarters, kitchen and dining room. The enlisted men stayed in a very pleasant home within walking distance

Above: A view of the Gasthaus (hotel) in Obernzell where the civilian employees of Military Government I-385 were housed.

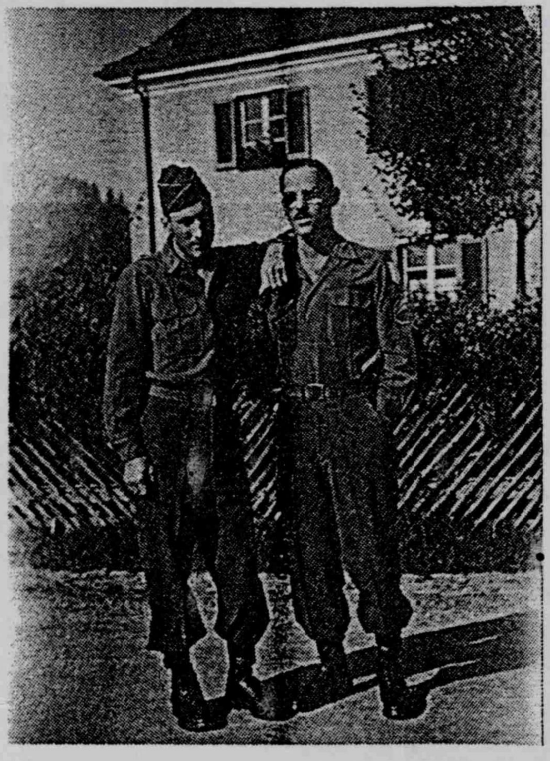
Below: The main street of Obernzell as it was in 1945

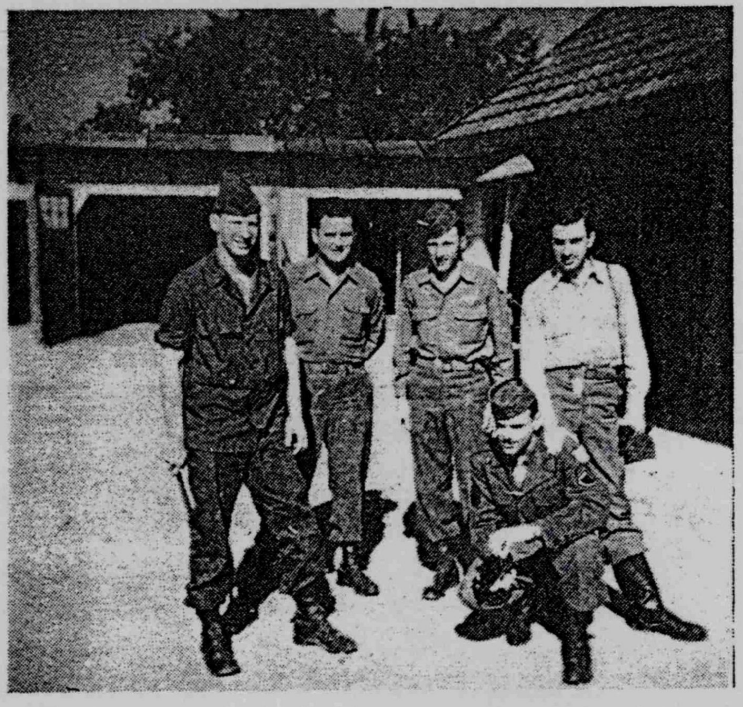
Above: Ray Heiber from Sgt. Tuley's hometown of Hammond, Indiana.

Below: Cpl. Sam Jones and Sgt. Tuley outside the office of Military Government Detachment I-385

Above Willy Bartorfy, Hungarian translator and interpreter. Bar- eventually went to Brazil in South America.

Below: Gene Borstein, Sid Gelfand, Cpl. Sam Jones, Harry Meyer and Sgt. Tuley





of the office.

Forty years later, Sgt. Tuley with his wife Helen and two friends, Ruth and Carroll Austin, returned to Obernzell, along with interpreter Kitty (Lorenz) Kuster and husband Claus. It was an emotional visit for Tuley, to be back after 40 years. He was able to go directly to the house that housed the headquarters, and to the home he lived in. Tuley and Kitty walked through the town and talked about many memories that they both carry with them.

Life in Obernzell, even though it was a very small town, was even better than it had been in the larger city of Zwickau. The problems for Military Government were fewer. There were fewer people to take care of. The area of responsibility was quite extensive in that it covered all of Wegscheid Kreis, Kreis being similar to a county in the United States. The towns located in Wegscheid Kreis were all very small, such as the case with Obernzell and the town of Wegscheid.

Paper work for the office of the detachment was heavy, as always. In the military there is always a lot of paper work in triplicate. Each detachment was left to its own format for weekly reports that had to be submitted to Military Government Headquarters in Regensburg. Captain Walter asked Sgt. Tuley to devise a weekly report for the detachment. The first one submitted to Regensburg, when Captain Walter and Tuley attended a monthly meeting there, resulted in a commendation for Tuley, and the assembled personnel there were told to prepare their reports the same way that Sgt. Tuley of Detachment I-385 in Obernzell prepared his.

While at Obernzell the detachment had two civilian cars for their use. The Mercedes Benz convertible was used by Capt. Walter with Sgt. Tuley driving when they traveled to different locations for meetings. The other vehicle was an Opel sedan that Tuley and the officers used. Both vehicles had been painted army green with Det. I-385 painted in white.

The detachment also had two army jeeps and a truck in their motor pool. Even a German military motorcycle was in the motor pool, but it was only used for fun riding. A bonus for recreational riding was two riding horses stabled at the residence that housed the office. These horses were ridden quite often after office hours. Even Kitty Lorenz, the interpreter, enjoyed riding, and she seemed to have a love for the horses.

The detachment had a full compliment of civilians working for them. A Hungarian lady whose name is not recalled was the cook, and she was an excellent one. She had a young girl to help her. It may have been her daughter. Then there was the tall German girl Lily, whose last name has been forgotten over the years, who took care of cleaning both the office and enlisted men's quarters. A German mechanic named Hans took care of the vehicles. A displaced Hungarian named Willy Bartorfy had also been taken on as an interpreter.

The following four pages are copies of Sgt. Tuley's report from Military Government Detachment I-385.

HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY GOVERNMENT DET. I-18E3
APO 658 U.S. ARMY

9 July, 1945
Obernzell, Bavaria

SUBJECT: Weekly Summary No. 6 (From 2400 4 July to 2400 8 July, 1945)

TO : Commanding Officer, Military Government Det. F-1D3 (Regensburg)

1. AREA OF OPERATION: Wegscheid Landkreis (Bavaria), operating from town of Obernzell. Landkreis occupied by 83rd Infantry Division, (322nd FA BN). Reports sent to Military Government Detachment F-ID3 in Regensburg.

2. STATUS OF CIVIL ADMINISTRATION: Effective the 5th of July, Georg Stelmaszyk was announced as the new Landrat for the Landkreis of Wegscheid. This announcement was made at a meeting in the office of the Landrat, addressed by the Military Government Officer of this detachment, and attended by one officer and four enlisted men from "B" Battery, 322nd FA Reg., Oberinspector, Andreas Sollner; Kreisbankdirector, Herman Fenzl; Transportleiter, Christian Justlinger; and Franz Killi, Office of Food and Industry.

It was pointed out that the change was imperative and in accordance with the policies of Allied Military Government, due to the fact that Max Imhoff, the former Landrat, had been associated with the NSDAP since 1933.

The following testimony was given by Dr. Wollheim, Burgomeister (Mayor) of Obernzell, CIC informant, and entrusted with the removal of Nazi officials: Anti Nazi citizens have been bringing information and complaints to his office instead of the Landrat's office as they felt they get the proper support from Herr Max Imhoff.

The former Mayor of Obernzell, Herr Vogl, is under arrest. He is said to have been a Gestapo informant.

3. STATUS OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Questioned one Maxim Weingartler of Polzed. In the course of questioning it came out that this man was a former Ortsgrupenleiter. He was placed under arrest and evacuated through 83rd Division channels.

Following a lead from Frau Weinrich we investigated her report of hidden arms on the farm of Herr Fritz Bauer. 3 shotguns, one light rifle, 5 gallons of American gasoline, a box of ammunition and 3 sabres. Herr Bauer was taken into custody and will be tried for illegal possession of firearms and gasoline.

The following persons have been arrested for former political associations.

Xaver Zillner of Breitenberg, an Ortsgruppenleiter.
Frau Nickel of Breitenberg, a Frauen Schaftsleiterin.

Johann Branal of Breitenberg, an Ortsamtsleiter. These individuals are in custody and will be brought to trial.

Fraulein Hedwig Allesberger from Kohlstadt No. 76, community of Kahlberg, was reported to have been raped. Three Russian soldiers from the community of Heinrichsberg, just across the border are said to have commited the crime. The same three soldiers tried to break into a house in Gollinerberg.

There have been numerous reports and complaints from border residents of Russians crossing the border to rape the German women and steal whatever they could get their hands on. Captain Henry Walter MGO of this detachment, and Staff Sergeant William Tuley, Chief Clerk of this detachment crossed the border to discuss these incidents with the Russian Commander. He promised to maintain tighter control over his troops.

Dr. Wollheim, Burgomeister of Obernzell reported that on the night of 8 July, 1945, three unidentified and unknown soldiers who were in a Jeep, broke into three different houses in Obernzell. This all happened about 2400 hours. In all three houses the soldiers ransacked the rooms and threatened the people, saying they were American SS Troops. In the house of Mr. Krautl, the soldiers hit him a few times and broke his clock and china. They also took his and his sister's watch, and in one other case they took a radio. Unfortunately we are fairly certain that they were American soldiers. The enlisted men of this detachment volunteered to be viewed by the affected residents. None of the enlisted men of this detachment were a party to the act that took place. The case has now been turned over to CID for further investigation.

4. STATUS OF REFUGEES, DISPLACED PERSONS AND PUBLIC WELFARE: A total of nine cases of typhoid, and three suspected cases of typhoid have been reported in Rackling. The worst cases have been evacuated to a hospital in Passau, while the others are quarantined in their homes. The town has been posted "Off Limits" and is being cleaned up.

The following orders have been given to the Burgomeister of Rackling.

a. Curfew hours from 8 PM to 6 AM.
b. Every manure place will be cleaned up.
c. Only two appointed persons will be allowed to enter or leave the community for the purchase of food.
d. American soldier patrols will be through at various times, and any person caught violating these laws will be prosecuted.
e. Every case of typhoid not reported and found, will be subject to fine and trial by a Military Court.
f. No food of any kind will leave the community.
g. The community will be quarantined for two weeks. Any resident who is found outside the community will be arrested.

Venereal diseases in this Kreis are low, but there are three cases

of Syphilis and three cases of Gonorrhea in the Kreis. There are only five known prostitutes in the entire Kreis and they are being checked. However, it is quite possible that other women are carrying the disease and are not aware of it as yet.

The latest report on refugees and displaced persons shows that the Kreis Wegscheid now has the following:

Austrians	400	
Dutch	2	
Hungarians	841	
Jugoslavians	76	
Norwegians	2	
Polish	35	
Romanians	101	
Latvians	4	
Ukranians	41	
Stateless	17	Total: 1,519

Each week more Hungarians, Polish and Czechoslovaks cross the border into Wegscheid. It seems that they cannot get home by crossing borders controlled by the Russians, so they slip unnoticed into this area of Bavaria in the hope that the Americans can help them reach their homeland. The Hungarians think that we can just put them in a boat on the Danube for their trip home. Surprisingly, there are many, especially from Eastern Europe who would rather stay in Germany than return to their countries now occupied by the Russians.

5. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE: Food conditions in this Kreis are satisfactory at the present time. However, there has been a serious outbreak of Hoof and Mouth disease with the cattle. This has resulted in the slaughter of the affected animals. If the outbreak continues it couls cause a serious meat shortage in the region.

In the past ten days there have been complaints from two sources of Americans purchasing meat, eggs and butter. This, of course is illegal. One case revealed in detail involved Lt. Wade, formerly of this Military Government Detachment, and Lt. Fielding of the 380th FN Bn. It seems that Lt. Wade had given Lt. Fielding written authorization to purchase these items of food. The sources of the purchases was discovered, and all bills with both signatures of Lt. Wade and and Lt. Fielding were taken over by this detachment, and the butchers instructed that no more food of any kind would be sold to American Troops.

6. MONUMENTS AND FINE ARTS: Burgomeister Wollheim, Obernzell, has submitted a report on the museum objects stored here. These artifacts had been re-

moved from the Munich Museum and brought here for safe keeping during the war. Most of the objects had been used during the coronation of the Bavarian Kings. Many of the items had been damaged supposedly by American troops.

Captain Kelley, 19th FN Bn, 5th Division quartered his troops in the castle after occupying the town, and for safe keeping had put a double lock on the storeroom and posted it "off limits." He had then turned the only key over to Wollheim.

Several weeks later after the 322nd FA Bn of the 83rd Division took over occupancy of the castle Mayor Wollheim happened to notice an American soldier on horseback with one of the saddles from the museum. He immediately went to the castle and discovered that the locks had been removed from the door of the storeroom. He then called Captain Kuhn who was responsible for the locked room, and he denied knowing anything about the broken locks. However, when Wollheim went to his office Captain Kuhn admitted he had ordered the locks broken under the pretext of entering the room to search for weapons.

7. PUBLIC UTILITIES: Arrangements have been made with the Landkreis Military Government in Passau for the sale of 700 meters of water pipe needed to repair the water lines in Landkreis Wegscheid. The engineer on this project will go to Passau in order to make the necessary arrangements for the purchase of the pipes which will be obtained in Schalding.

8. COMMUNICATIONS: Herr Gallinger and five other men, including two specialists, have started the repair work on the telephone lines in Kreis Wegscheid. This project should take about two weeks, and at that time the telephone lines in this area will all be back in working order.

Report prepared by
Staff Sergeant William T. Tuley
Chief Clerk MG Obernzell

HENRY WALTER
Capt., Inf.
MGO

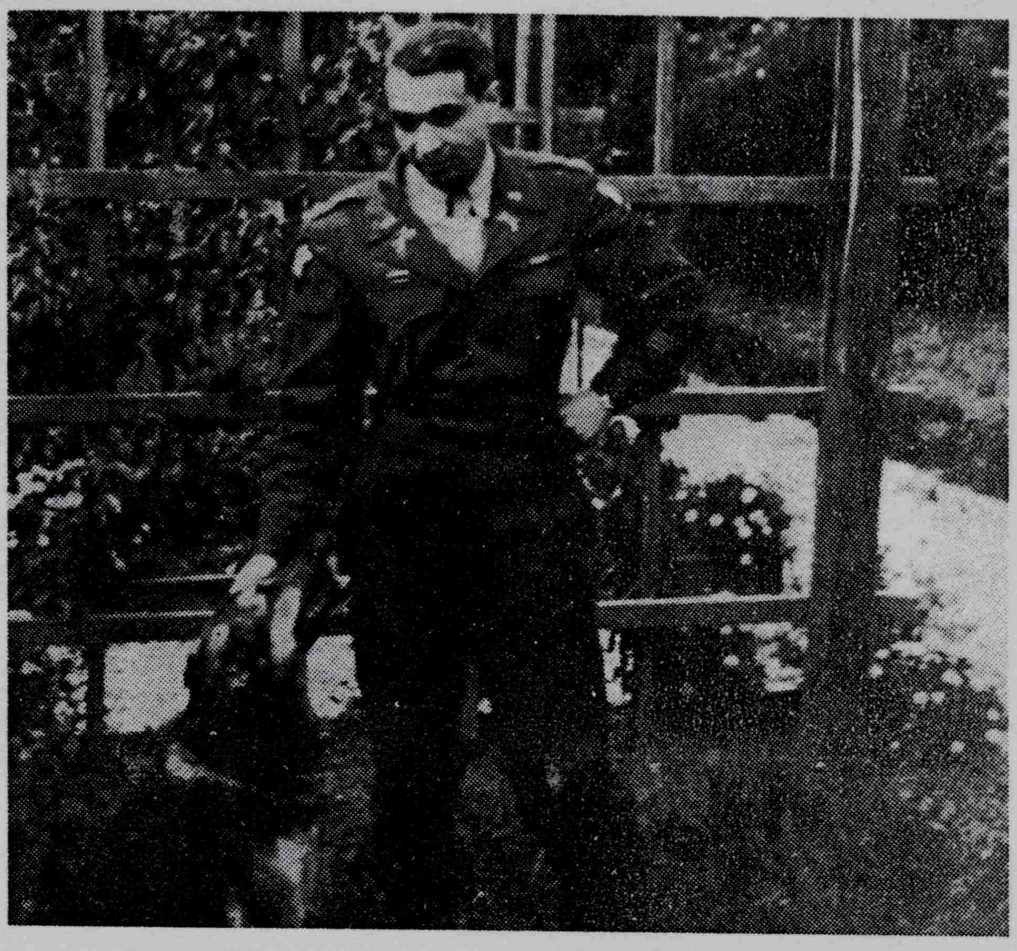
He spoke English, German and Hungarian. Kitty Lorenz and Gudren Emde also were with the detachment. Kitty worked for Captain Walter and Gudrun worked for Lt. Thomas. Still another interpreter who came to the detachment later in the summer was Steffy Bender. She had crossed the border all alone in an effort to reach the American zone. She carried all of her wordly possessions in one suitcase. The first American soldier she encountered attempted to rape her when she asked for directions and assistance. A very bad beginning of a new life for her.

Captain Walter had a very ferocious German Shepard dog named Horace. This dog never left his side, in or out of the office. Everyone was of the opinion that the Captain wanted the dog primarily for protection. No one could get near Captain Walter without a command to the dog by the Captain. Even Sgt. Tuley, who came in daily contact with the Captain, and was familiar to "Horace", could not get in the Captain's office unless the dog was ordered to sit. Tuley and the Captain made many trips together to Regensburg and to Passau, and Horace always rode in the back seat of the Mercedes. On a return trip from Regensburg, Captain Walter looked back and noticed that Horace was missing. Tuley had to turn the car around and head back toward Regensburg in an effort to find the dog. Horace was found a couple of miles back trotting along the road.

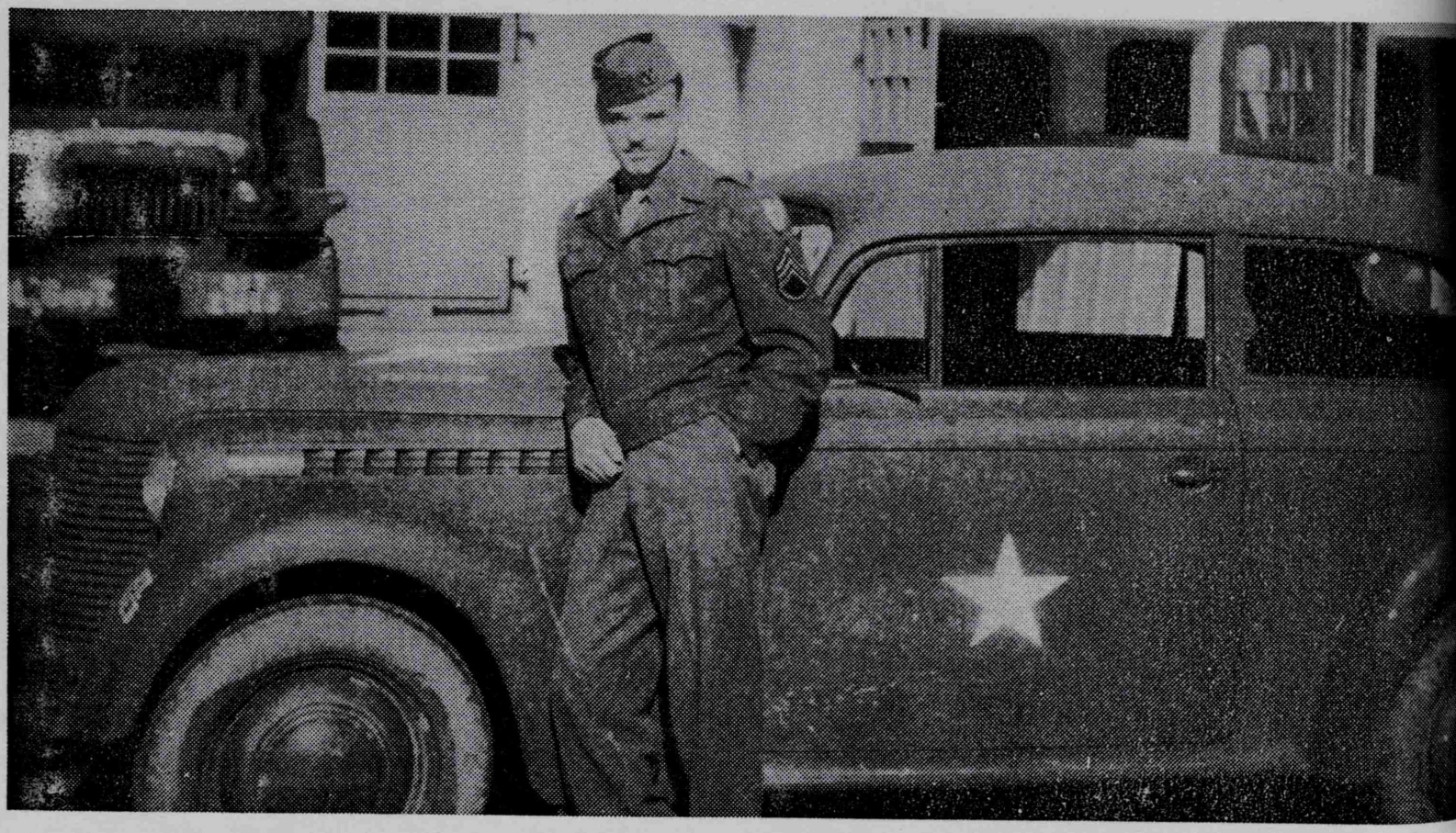
Sgt. Tuley had mingled with the German civilians quite a bit by this period of his military life, and developed an understanding of them. This eventually turned into compassion for them. In a letter to his family late in June of 1945, he expressed his feelings about Germany and the people.

"I suppose that as a soldier who had fought against German soldiers, I should hate Germany and its people, but I cannot do that. Hitler came along at a time when Germany was in a severe depression. There was no work, there was a shortage of food, and their money was almost worthless due to inflation. You could have enough German Marks to wallpaper a room, and it wouldn't be enough to buy food. The Communist Party was getting stronger, and many people were looking to that party for salvation. The time was ripe for a strong leader to save them, and to put down Communist tendencies. Hitler was there at the right time. He turned Germany's industrial plants into building a mighty military machine. This meant jobs, and jobs meant money for the individual. The only problem is that he went too far, and the result was to be a totally destroyed nation.

Now the people were worse off than they were before. Whole cities had been totally destroyed. Thousands upon thousands of men, women and children were homeless. They had no money, no food, and they carried all of their worldly possessions in a couple of suitcases. Of course the mighty German War Machine had done the same thing in other European countries, but this could hardly be blamed on the German



Pictured above is Capt. Henry Walter with his faithful dog, Horace.
Below is Sgt. Tuley with the Opel sedan he drove much of the time while in Obernzell.



Sgt. Tuley on the left and Cpl. Sam Jones on the right with two Russian non-commissioned officers on the border between Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Interpreter Kathe "Kitty" Lorenz with one of the riding horses at Military Government Headquarters in Obernzell.

civilians who were now suffering the same fate."

Tuley further stated in his letter that "sympathy and compassion must always be extended to civilians of any nation torn apart by war, as it is they who suffer the greatest, even more than the soldier."

Sgt. Tuley was in a position to see the tragedy and result of war almost daily, being with Military Government. His theory was "now that we have destroyed them, we must take care of them and raise them up again."

Mistrust of the Russians had persisted in Tuley's mind even before the war ended. It increased while he was in Zwickau, and the feeling grew stronger while he was in Obernzell. The Military Government Detachment at Obernzell had control of an area that extended to the Austrian border near Wegscheid, and also to the Czechoslovakian border. Both countries were occupied by the Russians. Almost daily reports were given and complaints received of Russian soldiers crossing the border to loot nearby German homes, steal their precious food and in many instances rape the women of the households. Many times Captain Walter and Sgt. Tuley crossed the border to meet with Russian Commanders who had control of the border areas. The problems and complaints would be passed on to the Russian officers and they would always promise to look into the matter. However, the incidents mentioned continued to take place.

In August of 1945, in another letter to his family, Sgt. Tuley made the following observation: "With the relations as they are between the Russians and the United States, I fully think that in ten years time the United States will be at war with Russia, and that Germany will be allied with us in this war." This prediction did not come true, but a few short years later, when Russia blockaded Berlin in an effort to keep the United States from sending supplies by train, truck and air into West Berlin, this prediction of Tuley's came very close to taking place.

On June 29, while on a visit to headquarters in Regensburg, Sgt. Tuley asked to review his personnel file, and discovered that he had been credited with only one Battle Star. He knew that the 87th Division had been credited with three Battle Stars. Not only did he want credit for three stars because he had earned them, but also because each star meant so many points toward a discharge. It took a couple of months of official letter writing, including one by the Inspector General to Fort Benning, Georgia, where the 87th Division was now stationed. Tuley finally received notice that his record was changed to show that he had been credited with three Battle Stars. A copy of those letters is shown in this book.

The routine office work evidently had reached a point where Sgt. Tuley became a little bored, and on July 15 he wrote a letter to the Commanding General of the 12th Army Group requesting a direct transfer to a combat unit in the

Pacific. He stated his combat experience and that this experience could be useful in the ongoing war against Japan. Tuley knew that any letter had to go up the ladder through the chain of command, but he sent the letter directly to the Commanding General. The reply came back on July 19, denying the request and instructing Tuley that in the future any requests must be approved by his Commanding Officer and sent through the chain of command. This letter also appears in this book.

In mid-September the Military Government Unit in Obernzell was notified that it was to be merged into the Passau unit, and would be operating as one large unit. Some personnel from Obernzell would move across the river to Passau by September 22. The remainder, including Sgt. Tuley, would move to the larger city of Passau by October 1.

The move seemed to be a bitter pill for the men to swallow. They had become accustomed to the good life in the small village. They had all made many friends there and were looked up to by the civilian population. They would definately not have the freedoms they had in Obernzell.

Many trips had to be made to Passau in preparation for the move, and on one such trip Sgt. Tuley was driving one of the Jeeps and was followed by Ray Heiber in the second Jeep. On this day it was raining quite hard and the road was slick. All of a sudden Tuley lost control of the vehicle when it went into a skid. The Jeep slid and swerved from one side of the road to the other and finally into the embankment on the right side of the road and back onto the pavement where it rolled over three times. Ray Heiber stopped his vehicle and ran to Sgt. Tuley's aid. As Heiber said later, "I thought sure Sgt. Tuley was dead." Luckily, Tuley sustained only cuts and bruises.

Now the investigation and red tape would begin. After signing many documents and giving testimony before a Board of Inquiry, the accident was ruled unavoidable due to the rain, and Sgt. Tuley was absolved of any responsibility for destruction of a military vehicle.

On Oct. 1, 1945, Sgt. Tuley reported for duty with the Passau Military Government Unit. He would no longer be the Chief Clerk in charge of the office and all enlisted men. Instead, he was assigned to operate a teletype machine in the Administrations office headed by Captain Skidmore. Tuley had never operated a teletype machine, but with minimum typing skills it was an easy task to master.

To be in the military, one must accept decisions by the higher command, even though they may seem stupid. This has always been tradition, and often joked about in the military. The move from Obernzell to Passau was one of those stupid decisions.

On October 27, just 27 days after arriving from Obernzell, some members of the detachment, Captain Walter, Lt.

The following 4 pages is a German language newspaper published by Military Government so the civilian population could be made aware of what was going on, new rules, laws, etc. Publication was autographed and presented to Sgt. Tuley by Capt. Walter when Tuley left for home.

To: Sgt. Tuby. - In remembrance of Dot. I-385 in Obernzell a/D. & with full appreciation of your part in holding the team together.

Henry Walter
Capt. - Inf.

Nr. 1

Amtsblatt

für den Landkreis Wegscheid

MIT GENEHMIGUNG DER AMERIKANISCHEN MILITAERREGIERUNG

15. Sept. 1945

Feierliche Vereidigung der Bürgermeister

Am 26. August 1945 fand in dem Sitzungsraum des Amtsgerichtes Wegscheid die feierliche Vereidigung der von der Militärregierung ernannten 26 Bürgermeister des Landkreises Wegscheid statt. Der Kommandeur der Militärregierung, Kapitän Walter, war von zwei Offizieren der Militärregierung und Kapitän Meyer, dem Vertreter der 83. Division begleitet. Weiterhin waren der Landrat des Kreises Wegscheid, Herr Stelmaszyk, und Herr Pfarrer Schwarzbauer als Vertreter der Geistlichkeit anwesend.

Der Kommandeur der Militärregierung eröffnete die Vereidigung: „Meine Herren! Ich begrüße Sie im Namen der Militärregierung. Ich freue mich besonders, auch einen Vertreter der Geistlichkeit hier zu sehen. Weiter freue ich mich, daß bevor vier Monate verstrichen sind, denn es ist noch nicht ganz vier Monate her, seit die amerikanischen Truppen herkamen, 26 Bürgermeister für die 26 Gemeinden des Landkreises gefunden sind, die nicht nationalsozialistisch eingestellt sind. Dabei verstehe ich nicht nur, daß sie nicht der Partei angehört haben, sondern daß sie auch im Geiste und Sinne nicht dazugehörten und daß sie jetzt anstreben wollen, das zu verbessern, was der Nationalsozialismus Schlechtes geschaffen hat. Wo der Nationalsozialismus Gewalt vor Recht setzte, da werden Sie Recht vor Gewalt stellen. Wo der Nationalsozialismus ungerechterweise verurteilt hat auf Grund von Rasse- und Religionszugehörigkeit, da erwarte ich, daß Sie anders urteilen und im Sinne des Wortes Gottes handeln."

Kapitän Walter wies weiter darauf hin, daß gerade die Anwendung von Gewalt diesen Krieg heraufbeschworen hat und die Welt in ein unermeßliches Unglück stürzte und daß er erwarte, daß die neuen Bürgermeister im Sinne der Bibel nicht Gewalt anwenden, sondern die menschlichen Eigenschaften gerecht beurteilen und behandeln.

Kapitän Walter fuhr fort:

„Der Herr Pfarrer wird Ihnen den Brief vorlesen, auf den Sie den Eid ablegen werden und den Sie beschwören werden. Es ist mir natürlich klar, daß wir die Welt nicht von einem Tag auf den andern ändern werden. Es ist mir klar, daß auch jetzt noch Zustände herrschen, die verbessert werden müssen. Aber es ist mir klar, daß wir alle, Sie, wie auch die Militärregierung daran interessiert sind, dem Recht die Stärke zu geben. Wo noch Unrecht besteht, sind Sie dafür verantwortlich, das zu begleichen und die Militärregierung wird Sie darin unterstützen."

Kapitän Walter wies noch darauf hin, daß die Befehle der Militärregierung unbedingt ausgeführt werden müßten und übergab dann dem Landrat das Wort.

Der Landrat brachte den Herren der Militärregierung seinen tiefempfundenen Dank für die Befreiung vom Nazijoch zum Ausdruck und erklärte: „Sichtbar kann dieser Dank am besten durch die Ehrlichkeit unserer Mitarbeit am Wiederaufbau und an der Wiedergutmachung zum Ausdruck gebracht werden. Nur wer freiwillig und aus ehrlichem Herzen heraus den Eid leistet, ist der Mitarbeiter, der zum Wohle des ganzen deutschen Volkes Gutes schaffen kann. Wir Deutschen haben immer gesungen „Einigkeit und Recht und Freiheit". Ich brauche hier wohl nicht erklären, daß es nie eine deutsche Einigkeit gegeben hat, darum glaube ich, müßten wir für den Begriff der Einigkeit die Ehrlichkeit setzen." Er führte weiter aus, daß Recht und Freiheit erst durch die Sieger in diesem Kriege gebracht wurden und forderte die Bürgermeister auf, als Grundlage ihres Handelns das Bibelwort „Liebet Euren Nächsten und tuet Gutes denen, die Euch hassen" zu wählen. Im nationalsozialistischen Deutschland konnte erzieherisch nichts Gutes geleistet werden. Es müssen wieder Grundlagen geschaffen werden, damit Leistungen und Denkart der übrigen Welt richtig erkannt und eingeschätzt werden. Erst wenn wir allen Irregeführten den richtigen Weg gewiesen haben, werden wir auch wieder in der Welt als das Volk der Dichter und Denker geachtet werden.

Herr Pfarrer Schwarzbauer aus Wegscheid erhielt darauf das Wort und begrüßte die Versammelten. Er sagte: „Es war die gute alte Zeit, die größte Zeit in unserem lieben deutschen Vaterlande, da der Richter ein Kruzifix aufstellte zwischen zwei Kerzen, bevor er einen Eid entgegennahm. Er hat dann auf die Größe des Eides hingewiesen und darauf in feierlicher Weise

den Eid abgenommen. Einen solchen Eid konnte eine Zeit nicht brauchen, die nicht mehr an Gott als an den Vergelter alles Guten und Bösen glaubte. Darum mußte in einer solchen Zeit der Name Gottes verschwinden." Pfarrer Schwarzbauer betonte, daß nun heute wieder ein Eid bei Gott geleistet würde. „Es ist nicht ein Aussageeid sondern ein Verpflichtungseid, ein Beamteneid. Sie sind von der Militärregierung als Bürgermeister aufgestellt worden und Sie haben das Amt übernommen in der besten Ueberzeugung, daß Sie so Ihrem Vaterlande, Ihrem Volk am besten dienen können und deshalb versprechen Sie bei Gott, daß Sie alle Aufgaben, die die Militärregierung Ihnen stellt, mit allen Kräften ausführen werden und die Gesetze der Militärregierung erfüllen werden, und daß Sie jedem Versuch einer Sabotage die Spitze abbrechen werden. Das versprechen Sie bei Gott."

Daraufhin verlas Pfarrer Schwarzbauer den Brief der Militärregierung und ließ ihn mit folgendem Eid beschwören:

„Ich schwöre bei Gott diesen heiligen Eid, daß ich die mir von der Alliierten Militärregierung gestellten Aufgaben und Pflichten nach bestem Wissen und Gewissen und mit allen meinen Kräften ausführen werde. Ich schwöre, den Gesetzen der Alliierten Militärregierung zu gehorchen und jedem Versuch einer Sabotage an den Befehlen und Anordnungen der Militärregierung entgegenzutreten. Ich leiste diesen Eid aus freiem Willen und in der festen Ueberzeugung, daß ich durch ehrliche und vorbehaltlose Zusammenarbeit mit der Militärregierung meinem Volke und meiner Heimat am besten dienen kann."

Kapitän Walter dankte Pfarrer Schwarzbauer für seine Worte und betonte nochmals die Bedeutung der Religion im Leben des Menschen und für einen wirklichen Wiederaufbau Deutschlands. Er machte die Bürgermeister noch darauf aufmerksam, daß sie die wichtigsten Personen in Deutschland sind, da sie diejenigen wären, die den Kontakt mit der Bevölkerung haben.

Herr Dr. Wollheim, Bürgermeister von Obernzell, ergriff nun im Namen der soeben vereidigten Bürgermeister des Landkreises das Wort. Als einer der vielen, die 12 Jahre lang unter der nationalsozialistischen Regierung zu leiden hatten, ist er besonders dazu berufen, den Dank für die Befreiung vom Nationalsozialismus auszusprechen. Er sagte weiter: „Ich kenne viele von Ihnen, die hier sitzen und weiß, daß Sie trotz vieler Schwierigkeiten treu zu mir gestanden sind. Ich weiß, daß wir anderen Geistes sind als ein großer Teil der Bevölkerung dieses Landkreises und deshalb glaube ich, daß wir uneigennützig helfen werden, das auszurotten, was 12 Jahre hindurch Deutschland in Grund und Boden gewirtschaftet hat. Sie haben aus dem Munde des Herrn Kommandeurs gehört, daß noch nicht alles so ist, wie es sein könnte, aber deshalb wollen wir eifrigst bemüht sein, die Zeit abzukürzen, daß wir bald so geordnete Verhältnisse haben, daß das Leben wieder lebenswert erscheint. Ich möchte deshalb nochmals in aller Namen aussprechen, daß wir Willens sind, die Amerikanische Militärregierung mit allen Kräften zu unterstützen".

Herr Kapitän Walter dankte Dr. Wollheim für seine Worte und schloß darauf die Versammlung.

Erst frag' Dein Herz!
Dann den Verstand!
So wird Dein Urteil
Auch stets anerkannt!

Milch-, Rahm- und Butterablieferung

liegt bei vielen Gemeinden noch sehr im Argen. Es soll nicht verschwiegen werden, daß auch bereits in einigen Gemeinden vorbildliches geleistet wird, aber leider in der Mehrzahl haben die Gemeinden und die einzelnen Erzeuger die unerhörte Bedeutung, die der Milch-, Rahm- und Butterablieferung zukommt, nicht erkannt. Bedauerlicherweise ist der Verdacht nicht von der Hand zu weisen, daß es eine große Anzahl von Bauern und Landwirten gibt, die die Notwendigkeit der Ablieferung nicht erkennen wollen und aus rein egoistischen Motiven oder aus Verantwortungslosigkeit sich der dringend notwendigen Aufbauarbeit entziehen. Es ist eine Schande, die nicht hart genug gebrandmarkt und bestraft werden kann, zumal es uns Deutschen bekannt ist, daß die Bevölkerung der Siegermächte sich freiwillig zu Gunsten Europas spürbare Einschränkungen in der Lebensmittelversorgung auferlegt. Es muß diese Tatsache hier mit allem Nachdruck betont werden, um die Verwerflichkeit einer Sabotage an der deutschen Lebensmittelversorgung zu kennzeichnen. Die bisher ausgesprochenen Geldstrafen sollen eine Warnung für alle diejenigen sein, die nicht guten Willens sind. Ich werde mich nicht scheuen, die Unbelehrbaren der Militärregierung zur Bestrafung zu melden, hoffe aber, daß mir dieser Weg erspart bleibt. Denen aber, die helfen, die Notzeit zu überstehen, soll ehrlicher Dank zuteil werden.

Der Landrat:
Stelmaszyk.

*

Die amerikanische Militärregierung hat mit sofortiger Wirkung als Leiter des Ernährungsamtes A, Passau, Herrn Johann Anetzeder, Bauer in Aichet, Gemeinde Kellberg bestellt. Zum Ernährungsamt A, Passau gehört auch der Kreis Wegscheid.

Leiter des Ernährungsamtes B in Wegscheid ist nach wie vor Herr Killi.

Plünderungs- und Wehrmachtsgut.

Noch immer wird Plünderungs- und widerrechtlich angeeignetes Wehrmachtsgut versteckt gehalten. Besonders Autoteile wie Schläuche, Reifen, Lichtmaschinen und dergl. wurden aus stehengelassenen Autos abmontiert und verschleppt. Sogar vollständige Motorräder wurden beiseite geschafft.

Teilweise ist solches Gut an Stellen versteckt, wo es dem Verderb ausgesetzt ist und so der Allgemeinheit verlustig geht.

Es ergeht nochmals die Aufforderung, Plünderungs- und Wehrmachtsgut, oder sonst widerrechtlich angeeignetes Gut, sofort bei dem zuständigen Gendarmerie-Posten zur Ablieferung zu bringen. Wenn bei kommenden Haussuchungen derartiges Gut noch vorgefunden wird, so hat der Besitzer strengste Bestrafung zu gewärtigen.

An alle Kraftfahrzeughalter!

Durch die amerik. Militär-Behörde und Deutsche Polizei werden in vollem Umfange Verkehrskontrollen durchgeführt. Jeder Fahrer eines Kfz. muß nachstehend aufgeführte Papiere bei sich führen:

1. Amerikanische Papiere:

a) Von der Militär-Regierung ausgestellter Sticker, für die Windschutzscheibe (rot weiß blau.)
b) Ein von der Militär-Regierung ausgestellter Registrierschein.

2. Deutsche Papiere:

a) Amtlicher Führerschein mit Lichtbild.
b) Kraftfahrzeugschein (grün).
c) Versicherungsschein bzw. Bescheinigung, aus welcher zu ersehen ist, daß das Kraftfahrzeug versichert ist.
d) Für PKW und LKW das Fahrtenbuch.
e) Ein Fahrbefehl.

Es liegt im Interesse aller Kraftfahrzeughalter, vor Antritt der Fahrt diese notwendigen Papiere auf Vollständigkeit nachzuprüfen.

Ablieferung von Bienenhonig im Jahre 1945.

Das Amt für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft in Bayern ordnet im Einvernehmen mit der Militär-Regierung folgendes an:

1. Bienenhonig unterliegt der Ablieferungspflicht.
   Mit Rücksicht auf die Unmöglichkeit einer geregelten Zuckerversorgung wird unter der Voraussetzung restloser Erfüllung dieses Kontingentes die von den Imkern abzuliefernde Honigmenge je gehaltenes Bienenvolk auf 1,5 kg ermäßigt.
   Mit der Durchführung der Ablieferung sind die Landesfachgruppen Imker in Bayern beauftragt.
2. Die Imker sind verpflichtet, den unter die Ablieferung fallenden Bienenhonig an die von der Abteilung Eier-, Geflügel- und Honigwirtschaft vom Amt für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft in Bayern zugelassenen Sammler oder Sammelstellen abzugeben.
3. Verstöße gegen diese Anordnung werden nach den geltenden Bestimmungen bestraft.

Fahrraddiebstähle.

In der letzten Zeit steigen die Fahrraddiebstähle stark an. Diese Diebstähle werden dadurch begünstigt, daß die Fahrräder sehr oft unbeaufsichtigt und unversperrt vor Amtsgebäuden, Einzelhandelsgeschäften und dergl. stehen gelassen werden. In vielen Fällen können diese Diebstähle nicht geklärt werden, da als Täter sehr oft durchziehende Personen in Frage kommen.

An die radfahrende Bevölkerung ergeht die Aufforderung, ihre Fahrräder jeweils gut zu verwahren, um derartige Diebstähle nach Möglichkeit einzudämmen.

Bereitstellung von Arbeitskräften für landwirtschaftliche Arbeiten.

Viele Frauen und Mädchen, vor allem Angehörige kaufmännischer Berufe, die auf dem Lande wohnen, werden in absehbarer Zeit nicht in ihren Beruf zurückkehren können. Diese werden aufgefordert, sich der Landwirtschaft zur Verfügung zu stellen, um die Not an weiblichen Arbeitskräften zu decken. Bei mangelndem Arbeitswillen haben die Bürgermeister der Landgemeinden das Recht und die Pflicht, arbeitsfähige Frauen und Mädchen in geeignete laudwirtschaftliche Arbeiten einzusetzen. Arbeitsverweigerern sind die Lebensmittelkarten zu entziehen. Arbeitsverweigerung ist dem Arbeitsamt zu melden.

Arbeitspflicht ausländischer Arbeitskräfte.

Ausländische Arbeitskräfte, soweit sie nicht den Vereinigten Nationen angehören, sind verpflichtet zu arbeiten. Die Ungarn zählen nicht zu den Vereinigten Nationen und sind daher arbeitspflichtig. Die Bürgermeister der Landgemeinden haben daher ungarische Arbeitskräfte in landwirtschaftliche Arbeiten, Holzarbeiten und Bauarbeiten einzusetzen. Arbeitsverweigerern sind die Lebensmittelkarten der 80. Zuteilungsperiode nicht auszuhändigen.

Bekanntmachung an Kaufleute und Bauern.

Auf Anordnung der Militärregierung wird folgendes bekanntgegeben:

a) Kein amerikanischer Soldat hat die Erlaubnis, Warenartikel, die durch das deutsche Gesetz rationiert sind, zu kaufen.
b) Der Verkäufer der Artikel riskiert, daß die Waren nicht bezahlt werden.
c) Requisitions-Formulare dürfen nur angenommen werden, wenn sie von der Militärregierung gebilligt sind.

Vermerk auf „Zeitweiligen Registrierungskarten"

Im Landkreis Wegscheid ist der Umzug von Flüchtlingen aus einer Gemeinde in eine andere des Landkreises im allgemeinen nicht gestattet. Ausnahmefälle können von den Bürgermeistern genehmigt werden, jedoch nur in speziell begründeten Fällen, wie Arbeitsaufnahme, Möglichkeit einer besseren Unterkunft, bei kranken Personen oder Kindern, welche früher in Ställen oder Heuschobern, ev. Zelten hausten.

Falls der Umzug vom Bürgermeister genehmigt wurde, überstellt die bisher zuständige Gemeinde ihr Zweitexemplar der „Zeitweiligen Registrierungskarte" an die von nun an zuständige Gemeinde und diese führt einen Vermerk auf dem Rücken der Registrierungskarte (falls dieser nicht frei, am Rand der Karte) hinzu. Dieser lautet:

Reported — gemeldet
Datum .....

Stempel der polizeilichen
Meldebehörde.

Diese Verfügung berührt die polizeiliche Meldepflicht und den Vorgang der Zuteilung von Lebensmittelmarken n i c h t.

Bekanntmachung.

Die Lagerung von Baustoffen, Holz, Schutt usw. auf den Reichs- und Landstraßen ist verboten. Ausnahmen bedürfen der vorherigen Genehmigung des Landrates.

Lebensmittelkartenentzug.

Den folgenden Personen werden Lebensmittelkarten und Wohlfahrtsunterstützungen verweigert und außerdem werden sie von dem Militärgerichtshof bestraft:

1. Alle diejenigen, die aufgefordert wurden, sich beim Arbeitsamt zu registrieren und dies verweigern.
2. Alle diejenigen, die beim Arbeitsamt registriert sind, arbeitsfähig sind und verweigern, die ihnen angebotene Arbeit aufzunehmen.

Bekanntmachung.

Das Sparbuch No. 3744 der Kreissparkasse Wegscheid, das am 30. April 1945 offensichtlich vernichtet worden ist, wird hiemit für kraftlos erklärt.

Wegscheid, den 11. September 1945.

Kreissparkasse Wegscheid.

Fahrbereitschaft.

Mit sofortiger Wirkung wurde die Fahrbereitschaft des Landkreises Wegscheid nach Obernzell, Bahnhofsgebäude, verlegt. Sprechtage des Transportleiters: Montag, Mittwoch und Freitag Vormittag.

*

Herr Heinrich Griebl, Gottsdorf, wurde mit Wirkung vom 27. August 1945 zum Transportleiter der Fahrbereitschaft beim Landrat Wegscheid ernannt.

*

Herr Jakob Körner, Wegscheid, wurde mit Wirkung vom 27. August 1945 zum Kreisbaumeister des Kreises Wegscheid ernannt.

Sprechtage: Montag, Mittwoch und Freitag Vormittag.

Maul- und Klauenseuche.

Nachdem in der Tierhaltung der Bäuerin Josefa Leitner in Breitenberg Hs. Nr. 67 der Ausbruch der Maul- und Klauenseuche amtstierärztlich festgestellt ist, wurde das verseuchte Gehöft gegen den Verkehr mit Tieren und mit solchen Gegenständen, die Träger des Ansteckungsstoffes sein können, gesperrt.

Sperrbezirk ist das **Seuchengehöft,** sowie die Ortschaft **Breitenberg.**

Beobachtungsgebiet ist die Ortsflur **Breitenberg.**

Verboten ist:

1. Im **Sperrbezirk:** Einfuhr und Durchtreiben von Klauenvieh, Durchfahren von Wiederkäuer-Gespannen, ferner das Betreten der Ställe und Standorte von Klauentieren durch Schlächter, Händler, Viehkastrierer und andere Personen, die gewerbsmäßig in Ställen verkehren, ferner durch Personen, die ein Gewerbe im Umherziehen ausüben. Das gleiche gilt für Personen, die berufsmäßig in Ställen verkehren, ausgenommen Tierärzte.

Ferner dürfen im ganzen Bereich des Sperrbezirkes, abgesehen von Notfällen, Ställe und Standorte von Klauentieren ohne kreispolizeiliche Genehmigung nur durch den Besitzer der Tiere oder der Ställe, dessen Vertreter, die mit der Beaufsichtigung, Wartung und Pflege der Tiere betrauten Personen und durch Tierärzte, Gehöfte mit Klauentierhaltung ohne ortspolizeiliche Genehmigung nur durch die im Gehöft wohnenden oder beschäftigten Personen und Tierärzte betreten werden.

2. Im **Beobachtungsgebiet:** Die Entfernung von Klauenvieh ohne kreispolizeiliche Genehmigung; das Durchtreiben von Klauenvieh und das Durchfahren mit fremden Wiederkäuer-Gespannen; sowie der Auftrieb von Klauenvieh auf Märkte.

3. Zur **Schutzzone** wurden die oben angeführten Gemeinden erklärt. Im Schutzgebiet ist verboten:

a) Die Abhaltung von Klauenviehmärkten mit Ausnahme der Schlachtviehmärkte in Schlachtviehhöfen, sowie der Auftrieb von Klauenvieh auf Jahr- und Wochenmärkte. Dieses Verbot erstreckt sich auch auf marktähnliche Veranstaltungen.

b) Der Handel mit Klauenvieh, erforderlichenfalls auch derjenige mit Geflügel, der ohne vorgängige Bestellung entweder außerhalb des Gemeindebezirks der gewerblichen Niederlassung des Händlers oder ohne Begründung einer solchen stattfindet. Als Handel im Sinne dieser Vorschrift gilt auch das Aufsuchen von Bestellungen durch Händler ohne Mitführen von Tieren und das Aufkaufen von Tieren durch Händler.

c) Die Veranstaltung von Versteigerungen von Klauenvieh. Das Verbot findet keine Anwendung auf Viehversteigerungen auf dem eigenen nicht gesperrten Gehöfte des Besitzers, wenn nur Tiere zum Verkaufe kommen, die sich mindestens 3 Monate im Besitze des Versteigerers befinden.

d) Die Abhaltung von öffentlichen Tierschauen mit Klauenvieh.

e) Das Weggeben von nicht ausreichend erhitzter Milch aus den Sammelmolkereien an landw. Betriebe, in denen Klauenvieh gehalten wird, sowie die Verwertung solcher Milch in den eigenen Viehbeständen der Molkerei, ferner die Entfernung der zur Anlieferung der Milch und zur Ablieferung der Milchrückstände benutzten Gefäße aus der Molkerei, bevor sie desinfiziert sind.

f) Das Betreten der Ställe in Standorten von Klauentieren durch Schlächter, Händler, Viehkastrierer und andere Personen, die gewerbsmäßig in Ställen verkehren, ferner durch Personen, die ein Gewerbe im Umherziehen ausüben. Das gleiche gilt für Personen, die berufsmäßig in Ställen verkehren, ausgenommen Tierärzte. In besonders dringenden Fällen kann die Kreispolizeibehörde Ausnahmen erlassen.

Von dem Verbot werden auch die Milchprobenehmer betroffen. Die Milchleistungsprüfungen können jedoch in der Weise durchgeführt werden, daß der Milchprüfer ohne Betreten des Stalles von der Stalltüre aus die Gewinnung der Milch beobachten und die sonst notwendigen Feststellungen an einem hierfür geeigneten Ort des Gehöftes außerhalb des Stalles treffen.

Diese Anordnungen sind **sofort** in ortsüblicher Weise bekannt zu machen.

Auflösung der Versorgungsämter.

Die Landesmilitärregierung von Bayern Wirtschaftsabteilung hat mit Befehl vom 4. 8. 1945 die Amtsbefugnisse und Funktion der Hauptversorgungsämter suspendiert.

Auf Grund dieses Befehls ist das Versorgungsamt Landshut ab 1. September 1945 geschlossen.

Personen, die Pensionsansprüche haben, die auf Grund dieses Befehls aufgehoben sind, sind dahingehend zu unterrichten, dass sie Ansprüche bei den Behörden stellen, die Hilfe für bedürftige Personen, die finanzielle Unterstützung benötigen, vorsehen. (BFV)

Nach einer Anordnung des HVA. Bayern v. 22. 8. 1945 sind Anträge, Gesuche usw. der örtlich zuständigen Landesversicherungsanstalt zu übersenden, die in einem noch zu bestimmenden Rahmen die Versorgungsberechtigten betreuen werden.

Herausgeber: Der Landrat Wegscheid. — Verantwortlich für den Inhalt: Der Landrat Stelmaszyk. — Druck: S. Präbst Wegscheid.

Einzelpreis 10 Pfennig.

The following pages are copies of official military letters pertaining to Sgt. Tuley's point accumulation, battle star awards and request for transfer to an active unit in the Pacific. The request was denied.

HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY GOVERNMENT DET. 118E3
APO 658 US ARMY

29 June 1945
Wegscheid (Bavaria)

SUBJECT: Records of Enlisted Man.

TO : Personnel Officer, 345th Infantry, 87th Division
APO 448 US Army.

1. Records of S/Sgt William T Tuley, 35357866, recently received by this detachment, shows that he has received credit for only one (1) Bronze Service Star. (Campaign #3, Germany). According to the Stars and Stripes, the 87th Division has been authorized a total of three Bronze Service Stars.

2. S/Sgt Tuley was a member of the 345th Infantry from Feb 22, 1943, until 12 May 1945 when he was transfered to Co Hq 12th Army Gp, in compliance with Par 11 SO 124 Hq 1st US Army APO 230. If the 87th Division has received a total of three Bronze Service Stars, a letter from your Personnel Office should be sufficient to authorize the same three stars to S/Sgt Tuley.

3. Your answer in this matter will be appreciated.

George L. Thomas
GEORGE L. THOMAS
2nd Lt FA
DMGO

201 - Tuley, William T. (Enl) 1st Ind WFG/hla
HQ 345TH INFANTRY, APO 448, Ft. Benning, Ga. 5 Sept 1945.

TO: Commanding Officer, Hqs Military Government Det. 118E3, APO 658, c/o Postmaster, N.Y., N.Y.

Soldier entitled to battle participation credits as follows:

"Auth Bz Sv Star for Rhineland Campaign per TWX, Hq AAC, 23 June 1945.
"Auth Bz Sv Star for Ardennes Campaign per TWX, Hq AAC, 23 June 1945.
"Auth Bz Sv Star for Central Europe Campaign per TWX, Hq AAC, 23 June 1945.

For the Commanding Officer:

WILLIAM F. GERROW, JR.,
1st Lieut., Infantry,
Asst. Personnel Officer.

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY "H"
2nd E.C.A. REGIMENT

APO 658
19 July 45

SUBJECT: Transfer of Enlisted Man to Active Duty

TO : Commanding Officer, Mil Gov Det I18E3
(Attn: Administrative Off.)

1. In answer to a letter sent direct to this Headquarters by WILLIAM T TULEY, S/Sgt, 35357866, requesting a direct transfer to an active theatre. Survey of this enlisted man's records show that has been placed in "Class 2" (Limited Service), and therefore is not qualified for combat service.

2. In the future such requests should come through channels, and be approved by the Detachment Commander before being forwarded to this Headquarters.

HERBERT GORDON
2nd Lt., AUS,
Personnel Off.

HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY GOVERNMENT DET. I-385
APO 403 US ARMY

17Sept. 1945
Obernzell (Bavaria)

SUBJECT: Adjusted Service Score of Enlisted Man.

TO : Inspector General, Hq's Third United States Army, APO 403, US Army.

1. Indorsement from Hq 3d Mil Govt Regt, Unit Pers Sec., dated 5 Sept. 1945, concerning the ASR scores of the enlisted men of this detachment, shows that I have been credited with a score of 47 points.

2. I entered the service on 17 June 1942, and joined the 87th Infantry Division in Feb 1943, coming overseas with the Division 16 Oct., 1944. I was with the division in every action that it took part in until 21 April 1945, the date that I was transfered to 12th Corps, and thence to Military Government.

3. The 87th Division, serving with the Third Army, received credit for three campaigns, but I was only credited with one campaign, even though I served with the division until all forward movement of the division had ceased. My records will verify my statements of service with the 87th Division.

4. The 87th Division is now undergoing de-activation in the USA, and a statement of an officer from Co H Hq's of this detachment, reveals that they have no way to check on the matter.

5. I feel that I am entitled to three (3) campaigns, which would give me a total of 57 points, which plus the 8 points from V-E to V-J day would give me 65 points.

6. If I am correct in the number of campaigns the Division was credited with, I would appreciate a letter from your headquarters stating that if I served with the division as I have so stated in this letter, I am entitled to ten more points for two additional campaigns. At present I am credited with "Central Europe". The Division was also credited with the "Ardennes" and "Rhineland".

William T Tuley

S/Sgt William Tuley
35357866 Det I-385
Co "H" 3d M.G. Regt.
APO 403 US Army

1st Ind.

Hq's Det. I-385 Co "H", 3d Mil Govt Regt. APO 403 US Army, 17 Sept. 45.

TO: Hq's Third United States Army, APO 403 US Army (Attn: Inspector Gen.)

REC'D IG OFFICE
2804
SEP 21 1945
THIRD ARMY

RECEIVED 18 SEP 1945

HEADQUARTERS THIRD [illegible]
AG 201.23

Henry Walter
HENRY WALTER
Capt. Inf.,
MGO.

AG 201.23 - GNMCI (17 Sep 45) 2d Ind

HEADQUARTERS THIRD U.S. ARMY, APO 403, U. S. Army,

To: Commanding Officer, Headquarters Detachment, I-385, Company "H", 3d Military Government Regiment, APO 403, U. S. Army.

1. Battle participation credit was awarded to the 87th Infantry Division as follows:

a. For the Ardennes Campaign per Letter, AG 200.6 OpGA, Headquarters European Theater of Operations, United States Army, dated 21 June 1945, subject: "Battle Participation Awards - Ardennes Campaign (Number 1)".

b. For the Rhineland Campaign per Letter, AG 200.6 OpGA, Headquarters United States Forces, European Theater, dated 1 July 1945, Subject: "Battle Participation Awards - Rhineland Campaign (Number 2)".

2. Under the provisions of Letter AG 370.01 GNMCA, Headquarters Third United States Army, dated 9 September 1945, recomputation of ASR score to 2 September 1945 (V-J) does not necessarily add eight points to the individuals ASR score as calculated to 12 May 1945 (V-E).

By command of General PATTON:

R. W. Hartman

R. W. HARTMAN,
Lt Col. A.G.D.,
Asst. Adj. General.

28 SEP Entd

HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY GOVERNMENT DET. I-385
APO 403 US ARMY

2 Oct. 1945
Obernzell (bavaria)

SUBJECT: ASR Score of EM

TO : Commanding Officer, Hq's 3d MG Regt, APO 403 US ARmy.
(Attn: Personnel Officer)

Enclosed is a letter from Hq's 345th Infantry, authorizing three battle camp aigns to S/Sgt William T Tuley, 35357866 of this detachment. This now brings said EMs score up to 65 points. Please see that this change is made in S/R of named EM.

GEORGE L THOMAS
2nd Lt FA
DMGO

Incl. 1
1. Ltr Hq 345th Inf.

A drawing of Sgt. Bill Tuley done by an Hungarian Artist in Obernzell.

Dalton, Sam Jones, Ray Heiber (the Hammond boy), "Red" Mehmert, and Sgt. Tuley, were ordered back to Obernzell as Military Government Detachment I-385 again. Two interpreters, Ursula Rinehart and Kitty Lorenz, went with the group.

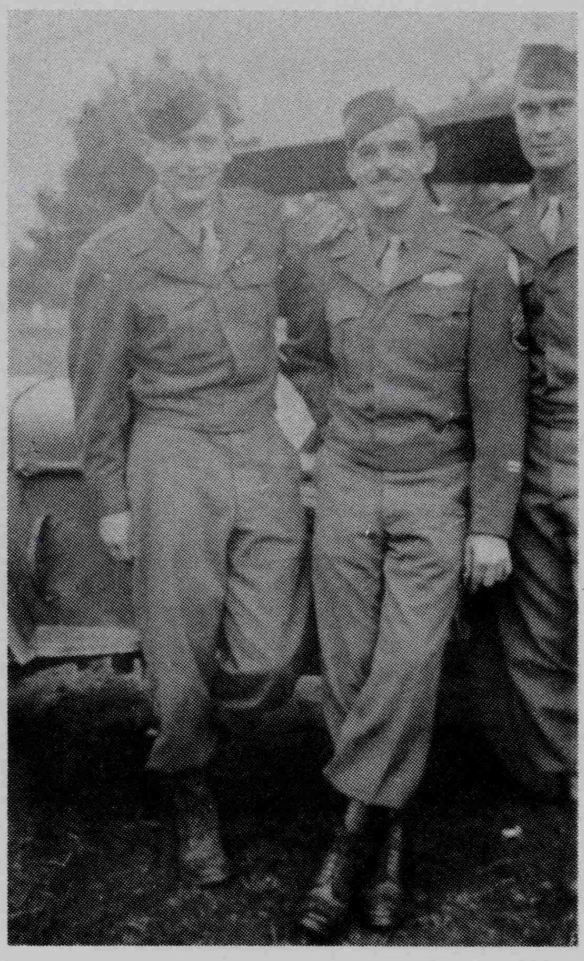
The building in Obernzell that had formerly housed the offices and living quarters of the officers, and the house where the enlisted men had lived, had been turned back to the owners. Now the office was relocated in the Obernzell Leather factory, and all seven members of the detachment, including the two interpreters, were housed in the Obernzell Gasthaus (hotel).

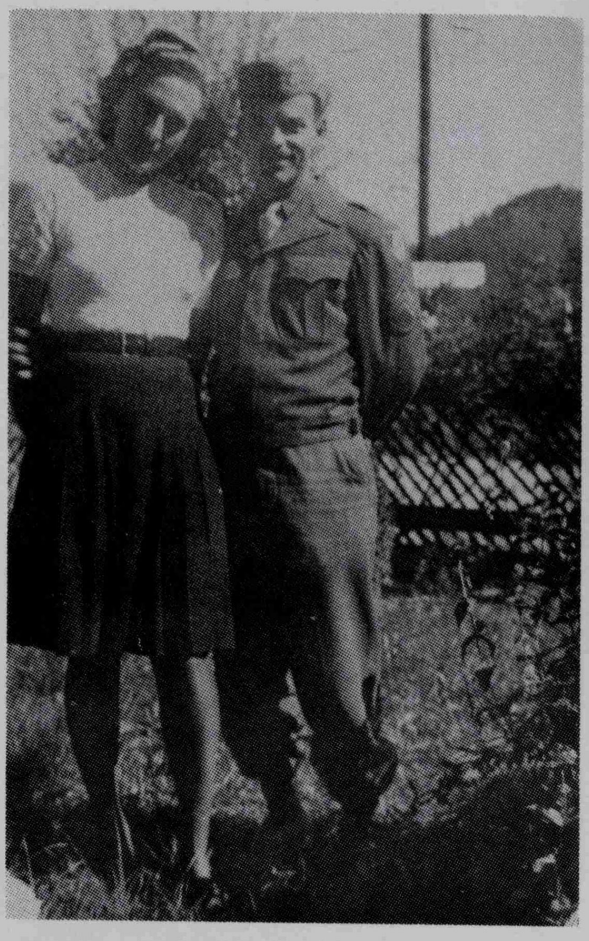
On November 2, Captain Walter called Tuley into his office and congratulated him for his fine work as the Chief Clerk, not only for his work in running the office, but for his handling of all the enlisted men. He then stated that Captain Skidmore had requested that Tuley be allowed to return to Passau as his Chief Administrative Clerk. Tuley told Captain Walter he would rather stay in Obernzell. This pleased Captain Walter, and he told Sgt. Tuley that he had already sent in to headquarters a request for Tuley's promotion to Tech Sergeant. Before the promotion came through, Tuley would receive his orders for deployment back to the United States for discharge.

On November 14, Tuley received orders to report to Augsburg to begin the long trip back home. Captain Walter talked to Tuley in an effort to convince him to volunteer to stay on longer, and reminded him that his promotion would be coming through shortly, but if he left it would be cancelled by headquarters. Sgt. Tuley thought long and hard about it, but finally made the decision to return home.

On the night of November 15, Capt. Walter had a farewell party for Tuley, praising him for his work with the detachment. Farewells were said, and wine glasses were raised. Then it was all over.

While in Obernzell Sgt. Tuley made a trip to Nuremberg to visit two members of his Hammond Braves baseball team. The photo on the right shows second baseman Bob Mattix, Sgt. Tuley and pitcher Cyril Teutemacher standing by Tuley's vehicle. Below the three of them in the dugout at an armed forces baseball game they attended.



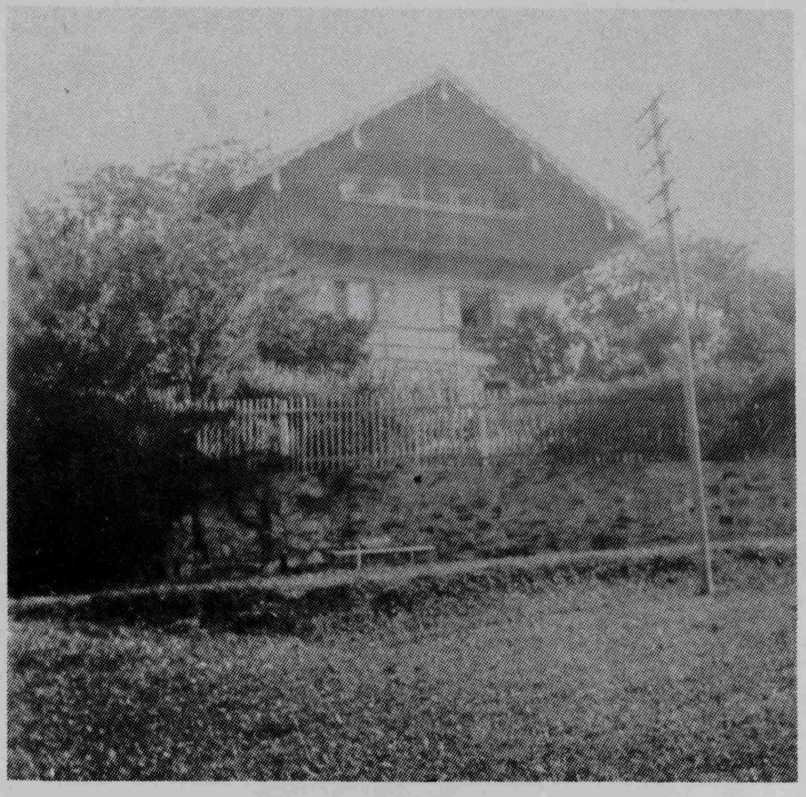


Above left: Sgt. Tuley with Gudrun Emde in Obernzell.

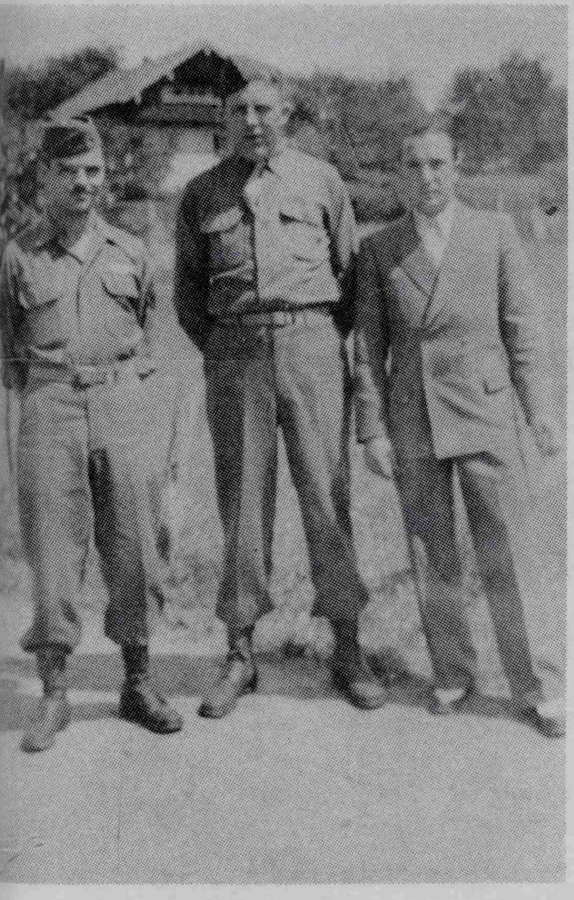
Above right: Tuley with the Lily the maid who took care of the living quarters and worked in the detachment dinning room.

Below standing left to right: Gudrun Emde and Kitty Lorenz. In front: Steffie Bender, Sgt. Tuley and Ursula Rinehart.

Above left: Headquarters of Military Government Detachment I-385 at Obernzell.



Above right: Living quarters for the enlisted men at Obernzell.



Below left: Sgt. Tuley on the left with Ralph "Red" Mehmert, and Hans the civilian mechanic.

Below right: Ray Heiber on the left with Red Mehmert.

Above left: Ursula Rinehart with her husband Lt. Bill Dalton on their wedding day.

Below left: Lt. Bill Dalton and Ursula Rinehart prior to their marriage.

Below right: Gene Borstein and Sgt. Tuley.

GOING HOME

Early in the morning of November 15, 1945, Sgt. Tuley was taken by Jeep to Passau where he picked up his travel orders and then was taken by Jeep to Augsburg, the first leg of a long journey back home.

He had mixed feelings. He wanted to go home, but he had made many friends, both military and civilians, that he hated to leave behind. He had become very accustomed to military life, and he enjoyed it. Being a civilian would be a new life for him. He wasn't sure that he could cope with it. It would be starting a new life all over again. Would there be pieces of life to gather and start with? Would he be able to bring the Braves Baseball team together again? Would he be able to return to the printing business at the W.B. Conkey Co. again? All of these thoughts were one big question mark in his mind, and it frightened him somewhat, but it was too late to turn back.

Tuley spent three days in Augsburg waiting for the returnees to be assembled for the next leg of the journey home. The next leg was a trip by truck to Schwandorf where three more days were spent.

After three days in Schwandorf, where he wrote his last letter home, all of the men returning home boarded a troop train for Antwerp, Belgium, where they would board a ship that would take them to Boston.

The stay in Antwerp turned out to be a long one. During this time, Tuley received a three-day pass to visit Paris. Paris was a beautiful city with friendly people and many sights to see. There was no war damage to be seen in the main area of Paris. Stores and restaurants were open as though they had not been through a long war which had seen the country occupied by German forces.

The stay in Paris was a pleasant one. Tuley stayed at a large hotel that had been taken over by the Red Cross. He enjoyed taking tours of the city and just walking around. Then it was back to Antwerp.

New uniforms were issued to everyone. Paper work and records were brought up to date, and the pay periods were brought up to date. All men had to undergo rigid physical exams and anyone with problems would likely miss the boat for home.

Finally, on December 12, 1945, Sgt. Tuley and as many men as could be packed into a tiny Liberty Ship, steamed out of Antwerp's harbor and headed into the North Atlantic for Boston.

This ship was a far cry from the Queen Elizabeth that had brought Tuley from New York to Scotland in six days. It was small and crowded and pitched and rolled in the high seas. Sailing day was cold and rainy. Tuley discovered that the North Atlantic in the winter time was no picnic.

The tiny ship would ride atop a crest and then suddenly drop with a shudder. The ship sounded as though it would break apart.

Prior to boarding the ship, Sgt. Tuley had tried mentally to prepare himself for the journey by telling himself that getting seasick was all in the mind. It didn't work. The trip took 13 days and the weather was stormy, windy and cold for all thirteen days. Tuley was sick in his bunk for all 13 days, eating nothing but dry crackers and bread with water to drink. Nothing he ate would stay down.

When the ship arrived in Boston Harbor on Christmas Day, Sgt. Tuley's weight had dropped from 155 pounds to 132. He was so weak he could barely carry his gear down the gangplank. When he walked ashore he wobbled like a drunken sailor, but he was no longer sick.

After supper that night Tuley began to feel better as he realized the meal would stay down. An attempt to call home that same evening failed. The lines were long at every telephone with men waiting to call home, and he decided not to bother.

On December 27, the troops heading for Indiana boarded a troop train for Camp Atterbury, near Indianapolis, arriving there on December 29. There was no delay now. With troops coming in almost daily, the men had to be discharged almost immediately in order to make room for others.

On the night of December 30, 1945, the men that had been on the troop train from Boston were assembled in a large hall. Every detail about discharge was explained: how to apply for disability claims with the Veterans Administration: while wearing your uniform from discharge point to home be sure to wear it with pride and to act like a soldier and a gentleman. Mustering out pay would be $300, of which you were to receive $100 in cash with the balance in a check mailed to your home address.

When each man's name was called he went forward, saluted the officer, was given a handshake and words of thanks for serving. He was asked if he would like to re-enlist. If not, would he like to be a member of the Army Reserves for a period of five years. If the answer was no to the last two questions, he was handed his discharge and dismissed. While waiting his turn, all of the memories of training, combat, and the good life in Military Government flashed through Tuley's mind. The many friends he had made. He remembered his buddies from Company E of the 345th Infantry who had been killed and wounded. He thought "I am a soldier. I don't want to be a civilian. I know more about being a soldier than I do a civilian."

When his name was called he stepped forward, saluted, said "no" to re-enlistment and the reserves, accepted his discharge papers, then broke down and cried. He had saluted for the last time. He had been addressed as Sergeant for the last time. He was a civilian once again.

Army of the United States

Honorable Discharge

This is to certify that

WILLIAM T TULEY

35 357 866 Staff Sergeant Company E 345th Infantry Regiment 87th Division

Army of the United States

is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military service of the United States of America.

This certificate is aivarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service to this country.

Given at Separation Center
Camp Atterbury Indiana

Date 30 December 1945

Reid H. McLain

REID H. Mc LAIN
MAJOR. A. C.

IN CONCLUSION

In ending this story of my "Memories of War", I feel obligated to talk a little about some of the German civilians who worked with me in Military Government and became close friends. None showed any trace of bitterness over the outcome of the war. They were happy that the end had finally come to pass.

They helped to erase my hatred of the Germans. I have always believed that to effectively fight and win at war the soldier must hate the enemy. To a certain extent I feel the same way now, but that feeling must only extend as far as the enemy soldier and not to the civilian populace.

In combat, the infantry soldier is many times turned into an animal. He lives in the mud and dirt, rain and snow. He learns to hate and to fight for survival. He forgets how he was as a civilian. These people helped to bring me out of the dirt of combat and back to the world of decency and respect for others.

URSULA (REINHARDT) DALTON

Ursula was from Koenigsberg and had lived in Gumbinnen, Lyck and Allenstein, all in East Prussia located in the Eastern portion of the now divided Germany.

During her years in Allenstein, now renamed Olsztyn and under Polish occupation, her father was Director of the largest branch of the Bank der Landschaft. Shortly after 1933 when Hitler came into power Herr Reinhardt was informed he could no longer work for the bank as Hitler had decreed that no member of the Masonic Lodge could hold an executive position anywhere.

Stress and worry about the future with no job resulted in Reinhardt having a stroke. He recovered from his illness and the executives at the bank's main offices in Koenigsberg, in an effort to keep him in their employment and still hide the fact from the Nazi Party, transferred him to Koenigsberg and put him in charge of the Insurance Division. This transfer was completed in 1934 when the family moved to Koenigsberg.

Ursula's father remained in his new position until 1937 when Gauleiter Koch (head of the area Nazi Party), ordered Reinhardt to be dismissed and replaced by a Nazi Party member.

Ursula was not at home when the dismissal took place. She had gone to Kent, England in 1936 as an exchange student. She had studied English in her German high school and now she was able to improve her knowledge of the language during her six month stay in England. This proved to be a great help later in her life.

Now, unemployed at the age of 50, and unable to find work of any kind, he became depressed and his health began to fail, and he suffered a series of small strokes.

In 1941, Ursula's younger brother was killed while fighting on the Russian front. Three years later, a mere shadow of his former self, Herr Reinhardt was struck by a car that slid out of control on ice and snow, and drove onto the sidewalk where he was walking. He died as a result of the accident.

At the time of the accident, Ursula was in Berlin, where she went right after the death of her brother in 1941. She found work in Berlin and also attended the University there. In the fall of 1944, her mother joined her in Berlin.

By this time the Russians had been able to push the Germans back toward Germany. Ursula and her mother knew the end was near. The English and American air forces had been bombing Berlin night and day and had turned much of the city into rubble. In talking about the air raids, Ursula estimates that she lived through several hundred raids while

living in Berlin. Several times she was bombed out of her apartment only to be bombed out of the next one. She tells of returning home from work one day and finding her apartment building nearly demolished by bombs. Everything she had in her apartment was gone with the exception of a favorite vase that remained untouched.

Finally, the Russian advance and continued bombing of Berlin made Ursula and her mother decide to leave the city and try to make their way to Zeitz. Some trains were still operating, so on February 15, 1945, she and her mother packed all their worldly possessions in a couple of suitcases and headed for the railway station. A family friend who was French went with them to the station. Upon arriving they discovered that there were hundreds of people attempting to flee Berlin. They were all jammed up at the doors of every coach. There was no way they could get on board. In desperation, the Frenchman found a coach with an open window, picked each of them up and pushed them through the window and then threw their luggage in after them.

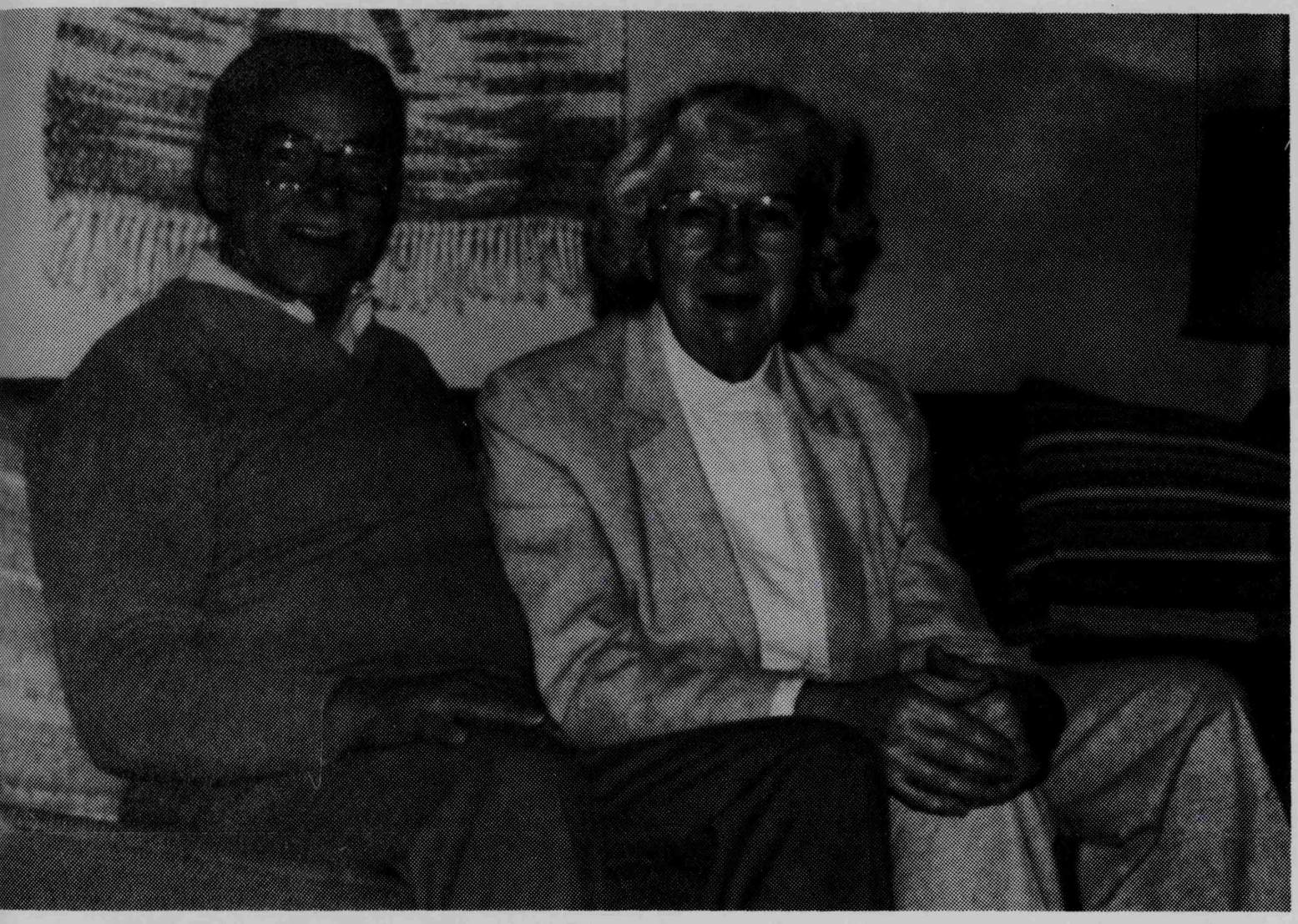
They had escaped the holacaust of the burning city, and finally made it to Zeitz. Sometimes they had to walk, carrying their luggage. In many instances the rails had been destroyed and it meant one had to walk to the next town.

In Zeitz they found a home with her father's younger brother. Zeitz was relatively secure at this time, but the American forces were approaching, and Ursula wondered if it would be another Berlin. Ursula does not recall any air raids at Zeitz, but as the Americans drew closer, they used their artillery in an attempt to bring the city to its knees. She remembers one day during an intermittant artillery bombardment by the Americans, she started out for the bakery to buy bread. She talked to a German Police officer to see if he thought she would be safe in making the trip. He told her he didn't think there would be a problem. She no sooner got to the bakery when an artillery shell landed close by, doing severe damage to several buildings and the bakery. However, it was business as usual. She purchased her bread and made it back home safely.

When the war ended Ursula was employed by the United States Military Government in Zeitz. It was there she met Lt. Bill Dalton. By perfecting the English language during her six months in England in 1936, it became an asset now as an interpreter. Some interpreters could speak English, but they could not write it. She could do both fluently.

Lt. Dalton was the Legal Officer for Military Government in Zeitz, and whenever he needed someone to both speak and write German or English he called on Ursula.

When the American Forces evacuated Zeitz in order to turn it over to the Russians, the German Police, on orders from the Military Governor at Zeitz, took Ursula, her mother and other interpreters to Kassel for a new assignment.



Picture of Bill Tuley and Ursula (Rinehart) Dalton in 1987 when Bill and Helen visited her in Burlington, North Carolina in March of 1987

In July, 1945, Lt. Dalton was transferred to Military Government Detachment I-385 in Wegscheid. He sent a staff car to Kassel to pick up Ursula and any other interpreter who wanted to leave. Ursula and Bill Dalton now joined me in my detachment in Wegscheid, and I took a liking to both of them.

The stay in Wegscheid was a short one, as we really did not have suitable quarters, (office or living), so we moved just a short distance to Obernzell, on the Danube, just across the river from Passau where our main headquarters was located.

In 1947, after having been discharged from the service, Lt. Dalton returned to Obernzell as a civilian employee of the United States, and on April 12 of that year, he and Ursula Reinhardt were married.

On June 6, 1947, Bill and Ursula arrived in the United States and made their way to Burlington, North Carolina, where he went into private practice as an attorney.

Ursula's mother visited them in 1956, and both Ursula and Bill wanted her to stay and live with them, but she wanted to return to her Germany, in Kassel, where she felt more at home. Bill and Ursula were able to visit her several times before she passed away on Oct. 16, 1960.

Helen and I visited the Dalton's in the early 1950's, shortly after the birth of their son, Reid, who followed in his father's footsteps and became an attorney.

In 1975, Bill Dalton passed away from a severe heart attack. In 1986, his son Reid left the practice of law and returned to school to become a minister.

Helen and I visited Ursula again in 1986, 1988, and again in 1989. We continue to be close friends and keep in touch with each other. Ursula had no family left in Germany, and says that I am the only one left here in the states who she can talk to about the old days in Germany.

KITTY (LORENZ) KUSTER

I first met Kitty Lorenz in May of 1945, when she came to work for us in Military Government Detachment #77 in Zwickau, located in the state of Saxony in East Germany. She was from Zwickau and could speak and write English fluently. Because of this skill she was able to act as an interpreter and clerk in our office.

When the American Detachment, after being in Zwickau for several weeks, had to relenquish control to the Russian Military forces, her family did not want her to stay there. As a result, we took her with us to our new assignment in West Germany.

The new location was in Wegscheid, and the detachment was formed into a new unit called Military Government Detachment I-385. Several of the enlisted men and officers of the original detachment remained with us in the new location. It was a smaller detachment than the one we had in Zwickau, and we had a new commanding Officer, Captain Henry Walter.

The village of Wegscheid was very small and we really did not have adequate office or living space, so after a week or two the detachment moved into Obernzell on the Danube River. We were still in the Kreis (county) Wegscheid, but now we were just across the river from Passau, where Military Government headquarters was located. Living in Obernzell was much nicer.

When I left the Detachment in November of 1945, Captain Walter had a farewell party for me. That was the last time I saw Kitty Lorenz. Then it was the long trip back home to be discharged.

Kitty eventually went to Stuttgart and worked for Military Government there. It was there that she met her future husband, Claus Kuster. He had been in the German Armed Forces, serving in Russia, France and Italy. It was while he was in Italy that he became a prisoner of war, captured by the Americans. After the war he went to work in Military Government under the United States Department of State in Stuttgart.

Kitty eventually left her job with Military Government in order to work with a Swiss Pharmaceutical firm and was assigned to their office in Japan. She stayed in Japan four years before returning to Germany where she married Claus Kuster.

Claus left his employment with the U.S. State Department and went to work in Germany's private sector. They soon relocated to Bad Homburg, just a short distance from Frankfort.

In 1981, 31 years after I had last seen or heard of Kitty, Helen and I, along with friends Ruth and Carroll Austin, were planning a driving trip through Sweden, Denmark,

40 years later (1985) on a visit back to Passau and Obernzell. On the left: Helen Tuley, Ruth and Carroll Austin.In front: Claus Kuster with his wife Kitty (Lorenz) Kuster.

Below: Bill Tuley with Kitty Kuster in Passau.

Germany, Luxembourg and Belgium. When I wrote to Ursula Dalton, another German girl from our Military Government Detachment, and now living in Burlington, North Carolina, she wrote back immediately and sent Kitty's address and telephone number and said we should try to see her if we were near Bad Homburg.

There was just enough time to write to Kitty and tell her we would try to get to Bad Homburg, but not enough time for her to reply before we left.

We did drive to Bad Homburg. Kitty and Claus came to our hotel. We recognized each other immediately and walked back to their apartment with them. It was a wonderful reunion.

In 1985, we vacationed in Switzerland with the Austin's and after our stay there we took the train to Muenich where Kitty and Claus met us at the station.

We had lunch with them, and then they took us on a walking tour of the old city. After that we drove with them in two cars on a tour of Germany with Claus acting as our personal, very knowledgeable tour guide. Our first stop was halfway to Passau at Braunau, Austria, where Hitler was born. It wasn't because of Hitler that we went there, but rather the opportunity to visit a small Austrian town and taste their famous pastries.

Then it was on to Passau and to Obernzell where Kitty and I had been with Military Government. It was hard to believe that 40 years after I had left Obernzell I would be back there, walking the streets with someone I had worked with. It brought back memories for both Kitty and I. We walked together through the little town, with the others following behind giving us the opportunity to talk about events and people we knew 40 years ago.

I remembered the building where our offices were and walked directly to it. I was even able to point out the window where my office was located in the building. Up the hill from the headquarter's building stood the house where the enlisted men stayed. It looked the same as it did years ago. At the opposite end on the one main street stood the old Gasthaus (hotel) where the civilian employees of the Military Government Detachment had lived. There had been some remodeling of the building, but it still looked the same. There also had been a few changes in the town, but to my eyes nothing had changed. I did notice that the barber shop near the office was no longer there. Every morning after breakfast I would walk to the barber shop and get shaved before going to my office.

Helen and I visited Kitty and Claus again in 1986, this time with Helen's sister and her husband Grace and Edward Morgan. In 1988 Helen and I travelled alone for a week's visit with Kitty and Claus. We are very close and correspond frequently by letter and phone, exchanging political views with each other.

GUDRUN EMDE AND HER FATHER HEINRICH EMDE

Gudren Emde and her father Heinrich both worked for the Military Government Detachment in Zwickau. They came to work for us at the same time Kitty Lorenz did.

Both Gudrun and her father spoke and were able to write English quite well. "Goodie", as she was called, acted as clerk and interpreter, and her father, who was a professional translator, spent his time translating German documents into English for us.

I spent many nights at their home, with "Goodie" attempting to teach me German. It did help me somewhat, but by now I have forgotten most of what I learned. Heinrich Emde and I would have long talks about Nazi Party policies. As I recall, he was very bitter about them and the fact that they ordered the German Military to fight to the bitter end, resulting in Germany being destroyed.

When the detachment prepared to leave Zwickau upon turning it over to the Russians, Heinrich Emde made it clear that he did not want his daughter to remain behind with the Russians occupying the city, so she, as well as her friend Kitty, left with us to our next assignment in Wegscheid and Obernzell in West Germany.

I saw Goodie for the last time the night before I left Obernzell in November of 1945 when I was sent back home for discharge. Years later when I talked to Kitty and Ursula Dalton about her they knew nothing about her. She just seemed to vanish.

For several years I corresponded with Heinrich Emde in Zwickau. Every couple of months Helen and I would send food packages to the family as there was a very serious food shortage in East Germany. He always answered my letters, but one could tell that he was very cautious about what he wrote as the letters were subject to censorship by the Communist authorities in East Germany. They, of course, were happy that food parcels were sent. The government could not feed them, but we could.

In all of the letters we received from Heinrich Emde, He never once mentioned his daughter Gudren. Then the letters stopped coming and to this day we know nothing of Gudrun and her father.

Obernzell as it looked when Sgt. Tuley visited the town in 1985. This photo was taken from the Passau side of the Danube River.

Picture of five members of Military Government Detachment I-385 at a reunion 40 years later in Cleveland. Standing: Host Gene Borstein, Sam Jones, Red Mehmert and Bill Tuley. Kneeling, Ray Heiber.

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Tuley, William T., 1916-

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